



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 25.27 Thursday, July 4, 2019

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

F R E E

VB T Planners set public hearing on ordinance for senior housing

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

A public hearing has been set for 7:30 p.m. July 24 before the Van Buren Township Planning Commission to hear thoughts from the community on a proposed senior housing ordinance.

At the commission's June 26 meeting, planning consultant Vidya Krishnan of McKenna presented a proposed Elderly Housing Ordinance, but Commissioner Joan Franzoi quickly noted "elderly" wasn't going to do it for 50 year olds who would qualify and "senior" was a better designation.

Krishnan said while most other communities use the "elderly" designation, she will change this to "senior."

Krishnan said it will be a place to age within the community as a special use in several zonings, with minimum sizes required, on a major thoroughfare, the height required in the underlying zoning, and a minimum of 25% landscaped open space.

"I'm glad we're discussing this," said Commissioner Medina Atchinson who several times had brought up the need for senior housing in the township.

She asked if the township is going to identify areas where this construction is feasible.

Ron Akers, director of planning and economic development, said he has alerted real estate people and developers and, "We put it out there." Akers said the Downtown Development Authority does targeting of sites in the DDA district.

Commissioner Atchinson asked what area is covered by the DDA and Akers said generally it's along Belleville Road from Van Born to the City of Belleville.

Atchinson said she remembered a few years ago when a senior development was being planned next to Meijer, but that wasn't built.

"We're a premier community," she said.

"A premier community has housing for everyone -- every stage of life. I know we've lost a lot of people," referring to those who have moved to Canton and other communities for senior housing.

Beth Ernat of Clover Development rose to speak as an interested party. She had addressed the commission at a previous meeting saying her company has targeted VBT as a prime site for senior housing.

"How quickly can you move this forward?" she asked of the ordinance. She said 70% of the ordinances she has encountered are called "elderly housing," but, that's not how they will bring it forward in VBT.

Commission chairwoman Carol Thompson said following the public hearing the commission could recommend it to the board and the board could vote to approve it. Then the commission voted to set the public hearing.

In other business at it June 26 meeting, the commission:

- Approved a one-year renewal, through June 26, 2020, of a temporary land use permit for Atchinson Ford to park lease-turn-in vehicles and new vehicle inventory

(continued on page 18)

Lake closed at BYC from 9:45 to 11 p.m. on July 4

Belleville Lake in front of the Belleville Yacht Club will be closed from 9:45 to 11 p.m. on Thursday, July 4, for the annual BYC fireworks.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources permit for the fireworks requires the lake closing and Wayne County Sheriff Deputies and Van Buren Township Marine Patrol will be on the lake to turn boats away from this area.



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Sue Moore was showered with good wishes, plaques, hugs and gifts, including a clock from the Belleville Police Department on the occasion of her last day of work for the City of Belleville on Friday. Moore, of Plymouth Township, was Police Records Clerk for 32 years and dealt with the prosecutor's office, state officials, forfeiture funds and other documents, under five police chiefs. Briana Hootman, who now works in the front office, will take over Moore's job. On Friday, Moore received a certificate of appreciation from Sumpter Township Director of Public Safety/Police Chief Eric Luke, a resident of the City of Belleville. Van Buren Township Director of Public Safety Greg Laurain sent a letter praising her work. A special cake made by The Bake Shoppe in Sumpter Township honored Moore with an edible Belleville Police badge.

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SECOND FRONT PAGE



The honor guard for the Masonic Lodge cornerstone ceremony at the Belleville Area District Library on Saturday posed for a shot. Second from right is Kenneth Landstrom of Van Buren Township and at far right is Ronald Merrit, II, a resident of VBT and a member of the township's Environmental Commission.



The gavel used in the cornerstone ceremony on Saturday was originally owned by General George Washington, a Mason, and it is dated 1788. The gavel was given to the Grand Lodge F&AM of Michigan in 1912. Gen. Washington's gavel was borrowed from the Masonic Museum in Grand Rapids for the Belleville ceremony.



The ceremony involved sprinkling corn on the cornerstone for abundance, pouring wine and oil on it, and measuring it to make sure it is precisely made. The cornerstone reads 2020 and will be installed in the building later. Michigan Masons Grand Lodge officials performed the ceremony and they were hosted by the Belleville Myrtle Lodge #89 F&AM, who escorted them along Main Street from the Masonic Temple to the library in full regalia.

OPINIONS

Editorial

Hiring of new VBT Supt. of Building & Grounds is strange

Kristopher Schlutow was due to be hired Tuesday night as the new Van Buren Township Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds at an annual salary of \$62,128. Although the *Independent* went to press before that meeting, because of the holiday, we're sure he was hired, but it was a strange hiring process.

He was not present to meet the township board at Monday's work/study session when his hiring was discussed. In fact, Supervisor Kevin McNamara said he met Schlutow for the first time earlier that day when he saw a stranger at township hall wearing an employee's tag and asked him, "Do I know you?"

Schlutow is replacing Jeff Fondaw who abruptly resigned from that position and there's a big hurry to replace him. McNamara said Schlutow has to be on board now because he is needed.

Clerk Leon Wright said Matthew Best, director of public services, wants to go on vacation. Best said he came to Monday's meeting while he is on vacation.

Schlutow has 14 years in public service and in his last job was responsible for the water system for the Wayne County Airport Authority, McNamara said.

Human Resources Director Nicole Sumpter said Schlutow started work July 1, although an internet log said he'd been working for a month for VBT. Last week his name already was on the VBT website in his new position. Anyway, he's in, but the process was very strange.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

On Friday when everyone was celebrating Sue Moore who was leaving the City of Belleville after 32 years of service as police records clerk, Chief Hal Berriman got to talking about how his partner at Detroit PD was her dad's partner and there were other of Sue's relatives that were related to Chief Berriman's officers when he was in Detroit.

Sue mentioned that she was cousin of the late Chesley Odom, Belleville's creative designer who loved to talk to people and go up and down Main Street keeping us all informed. Sue said she was at a funeral when she saw Chesley and thought he must be at the wrong funeral. He wasn't. She learned they were cousins.

She said whenever he saw her, from that time on, he would stop whatever he was doing and call out, "Cuz!" She said it even happened when he was at a meeting and he interrupted the meeting to call out "Cuz!" and explain to everyone that they were cousins.

Sue said she tried to avoid him when she could because it was so embarrassing.

A reader, who identified herself as a 21-year resident of Van Buren Township, called to say she was in favor of building ranch-style homes in the township so those with handicaps didn't have to struggle. I told her Scott Jones' condos planned for next to Sandy's Marina were going to be built with that format.

She also suggested that someone send the story on April Austin in the last week's paper to "The Doctors," a show she watches at 10 a.m. on channel 7. She said the doctors select someone to help and then do help, without charge.

On another subject, our reader said she



called the township to ask them to go look at Garden City Park, which is a wonderful park and would be a good example for VBT. She said there is nowhere for children to play safely in VBT. She said the woman in the supervisor's office who talked to her was very rude and she won't call there again.

The reader also said she agreed with my safety concerns about the splash park with no attendants. It's under construction now at Quirk Park and is expected to be done in August. Maybe it will be just fine without an attendant. We'll see.

It was really hot on Saturday when the Michigan Masons, hosted by the Belleville Masons, did their library cornerstone ceremony on the porch of the current library. It was a tight fit up there in the shade and to see the faces of everyone you had to go out in the bright sunlight to shoot the pictures.

For some reason I thought they were going to lay the cornerstone, like in the pictures of George Washington and the Capitol building, but it was on a table where they sprinkled ceremonial substances on it and blessed it. I guess builders will put it in place later.

It was a meaningful, brief ceremony and then everybody got to eat free ice cream on the shady library porch.

Nicole Bleifeld, assistant cable director at VBT who took over when the director got fired, turned in her resignation at 4 p.m. last Friday.

Jimmy Baleja said he was almost thrown off his motorcycle when he hit the gravel patch across Bemis Road. Some are saying it was a broken water main under the newly asphalted roadway that caused the county to dig it up. Now they have to put asphalt over it before someone has a nasty accident there.

We received a reply to last week's editorial on our website. A resident of Sherwood Road said they hear gunshots at night, as well. A

Sumpter resident called on Monday to say his neighbors shoot their rifle and pistol in their back yard during the middle of the day and police tell him there's nothing he can do about it because of the Second Amendment.

We received an email from someone who said he was in the *Independent* in 1994 and he wanted a copy of the story, if our records go back that far. Problem is, the *Independent* published its first issue on Jan. 5, 1995. It seems like we've been here forever, but not really. We're working our way through the 25th year and are planning to recognize this with something special – still in the planning stages.

And, we do have copies of all our issues back to the beginning and hunt them out when someone needs a story or obituary or something else. Sometimes it takes a bit of digging, but we can find it.



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Editor: Rosemary K. Otzman
Home phone (NO ADS, PLEASE!): 697-1294

Advertising Manager: Bob Mytych

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Office Manager: Janet Millard

Business Manager: Gerald McKelvey

Editorial Cartoonist: Bob Mytych

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Letters

We all should be reading the Mueller Report

To the editor:
The Investigation
Last night I watched a dramatic reading of the Mueller Report (MR) by a group of talented actors. Yes, I did say the Mueller Report. You know, the Special Counsel's investigation into Russian meddling in our 2016 election. That investigation President Trump very often calls a "witch hunt" and hoax. It isn't a hoax and was never a witch hunt.

It should be of concern to us that the Russians wanted Donald Trump to become our President. On page 71 volume I of the Report, Mueller tells us Felix Sater (a New York real estate developer who emigrated from Russia as a child) emailed Michael Cohen these words, "Buddy our boy can become President of the USA and we can engineer it. I will get all of the Putins team to buy in on this."

The Report also tells us the Russian campaign "evolved from a generalized program designed in 2014 and 2015 to undermine the U.S. electoral system, to a targeted operation that by early 2016 favored candidate Trump and disparaged candidate Clinton" (volume I, page 4 MR).

We should be concerned President Trump continues to discount the Russian interference. In volume II of the Report, we learn Trump tried to prevent the FBI's investigation into Russian interference (volume II, pp 48-77, MR). And Mitch McConnell and the Republican Senate wants us to believe the Mueller Investigation is "old news" -- that we should move on.

We're all busy during the summer. I understand that. But as informed citizens, we should read the Mueller Report ourselves. If you're busy, here are a couple options.

1) The Mueller Report book club has six hour-long videos giving us expert insight. The website also provides a free pdf file of the Report for download to our computers. <https://www.muellerbookclub.com/>

2) If you don't want to watch six videos, though, watch the dramatic reading "The Investigation" (1-1/2 hours) mentioned in the first paragraph of this letter. The dramatic reading is interesting. It is enlightening and compelling. Find it at <https://lawworksaction.org/>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA
Save our Nation -- Revive us LORD

As informed citizens, we need to read the Mueller Report ourselves. Let's not base our opinions on what our favorite news source tells us.

Barbara Zysk-Berman
Sumpter Township

Bright lights along the lake ruin the view

To the editor:

We live on the south shore of Belleville Lake on N. Liberty. We have lovely views of the lake, can see both sunsets and sunrises. Unfortunately, a house that we believe is on Belleville Road next to the vacant land where there's a park proposed has two very bright and annoying spotlights. They are turned on most evenings all year long for no apparent reason. If the lake was an airport landing strip, they would be perfect, however, it's not and the lights obscure pretty views of lake surface, boat traffic, star/moon views and actually hurt one's eyes. Does this bother anyone else? Is there an ordinance for lakeshore lighting? What can be done about this?

We miss the gentle shoreline lights and watching the green and red boat lights in the summer and the changing lake views in the winter months. Are these people housing prisoners and they are preventing escapees? Or keeping illegals off their land? What is the point of annoying us south shore lakefront residents? Are they aware?

Looking for the off switch,
C&A Johnson
N. Liberty resident
Belleville

Community Band Summer Concert set

To the editor:

The Belleville Community Band has set its summer concert for Saturday, July 27, at 7:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles Street, under the direction of Mr. Zachary Donnelly.

The board and members of the band would like to extend a warm thank you to the people of our community and the business sponsors for all their support over the years.

For any question, please contact Jack or Micky Keelan at (734) 699-6350.

Jack Keelan, president
Belleville Community Band

"We should be eternally vigilant against attempts to check the expression of opinions that we loathe."
— Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

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More Letters

Nation divided because we lost sight of Truth

To the editor:

First and foremost, please know I am NOT in any manner referring to our local newspaper, the Belleville-Area Independent, or the editor, Rosemary Oztzman. Belleville and our entire tri-community area are extremely fortunate to have weekly news, factually printed, and where or whenever there has been an "error" or misinformation reported, it is always followed up with a correction and apology.

Thank you, Rosemary.

There is no similarity when comparing our "town paper" with the so-called marketed media of today.

Convinced I am that the "fake" news we all are being bombarded with today is truly our real enemy – not solely within the printed media, but also our television screens and all electronic devices.

Not one day passes devoid of misplaced "opinions" and so-called "sources" and "anonymous" letter writers spewing their lies while desperately pandering for our votes.

The media presumes we as voters do not know how to differentiate between the lies we are being constantly subjected to and the TRUTH. Then, too, the media evidently believes that when and if a lie is repeated often enough it will become and assumed to be true – NOTHING could be further from the truth! Because of the media's intentional and deceitful reasoning, our beloved nation is being divided, i.e. doves-vs-hawks!

I believe many will agree that our nation is being divided (politically) because we have lost sight of what the TRUTH is! Truly, we are living in tumultuous times, and becoming dangerously close to sacrificing our freedoms and our law-and-order democracy while listening and viewing some presidential candidates advocating socialism and communism; perhaps NOW is the time to differentiate between the factual, everlasting Gospel TRUTH and the present-day deliberate/outright LIES.

What is the Gospel Truth? Jesus said in John 8:31, 32: "If you adhere to My teaching you will truly be My disciples; you will know the TRUTH and the TRUTH will set you free."

God bless America.

(Mrs.) Ruth Bleeker
Belleville

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July 5 – Anthony Richendollar
July 9 – Sophia Zoller
July 10 – Byron Hylton, Sharon
Pokerwinski

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David C. Brown recertified as Certified Funeral Practitioner

David C. Brown, CFSP, a funeral director at David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville, has recently qualified for recertification of the designation of Certified Funeral Service Practitioner (CFSP) by the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice.

A number of professionals grant special recognition to members upon completion of specified academic and professional programs and "CFSP" is funeral service's national individual recognition.

A select few have distinguished themselves among their peers within the funeral service profession as they continue their education to exceed the highest standards of care.

This achievement is especially notable because David Brown has voluntarily elected to participate in quality educational and service opportunities that far surpass what the funeral service licensing board in Michigan requires. Brown has committed to a program of lifelong learning to serve families in his community with the level of excellence expected of a CFSP.

Since its 1976 founding, the Academy has had as its goals: 1. to recognize those practitioners who have voluntarily entered into a program of personal and professional growth, 2. to raise and improve the standards of funeral service, and 3. to encourage practitioners to make continuing education a life-long process in their own self-interest, the interest of the families they serve, and the community in which they serve.

To initially receive this award, the practitioner must complete a 180-hour program of continuing education activities and events. In addition, the practitioner is required to accumulate 20 hours per year to recertify. Credits are award by the Academy for work leading to personal and/or professional growth in four areas: academic activities, professional activities, career review (for retroactive credit), and community and civic activities.

Yankee Air Museum gives Ford Fireworks flyby on June 24

People attending the Ford Fireworks this year were in for an added treat – the Yankee Air Museum, located in Belleville, provided a flyover of the Detroit River by three WWII vintage aircraft.

Aircraft scheduled for the flyby were a B-17G Flying Fortress - *Yankee Lady*, a B-25D Mitchell - *Yankee Warrior*, and a C-47 Skytrain - *Hairless Joe*. Estimated time for the flyover was 7:30 p.m. on June 24, weather permitting.

All three of these aircraft types played pivotal roles in WWII.

More Letters

Mr. Muffler in Belleville is outstanding!

To the editor:

I just wanted to share an outstanding experience I recently had. I needed a muffler on my Jeep and I work next door to a mechanic, but he really has not had the time to look at my car.

So, I called a few places and was told it would be between \$300 and \$400 for a new one.

Someone said to take it to Mr. Muffler. I stopped in on Friday and asked if I could drop it off on Monday to have it looked at. I asked how much it'd be for a whole new muffler, and was told around \$230. I dropped it off on Monday and they called me before I even got to work with a quote: \$73! I didn't need a whole new muffler, just a sleeve. I said that it would be great and asked them to call when it is done. They called in less than a half hour to tell me that it was complete.

I would have had no idea if they didn't tell me and would have paid the \$230. I am very happy that they were honest, inexpensive, quick, and super nice. Thank you to all the guys at Mr. Muffler in Belleville.

Dana Martin
Van Buren school bus driver

Christening dress bonds three generations

To the editor:

A Christening dress was given to Robert and Mildred Baker by Mildred's parents, Lambert and Elizabeth Mida for the birth of their first child, Robert, Jr., for his Christening. It was then worn by their next two children, James and Joan.

When the grandchildren started coming along, it was worn by all eight grandchildren for the baptisms, Natasha, Marcus, Robert III, Tara, Christopher, Stephanie, Elizabeth, and Glenn.

Then the great-grandchildren, Alison, Nicklas, Tyler, Joshua, Jack, Caroline, Emma, Nina, Eve, Edward, Gabriel, Joseph, and Maxton.

That makes 24 babies who have worn the 75-year-old dress. Mildred Baker has had all the names embroidered on the slip along with their dates of birth. Boys are in blue and the girls' names are in pink.

Each time the dress is brought out of storage, it brings back many happy memories.

Mildred Baker
Belleville

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More Letters

Living on the South Side of Town for 60 years

To the residents of Sumpter Township, family, and friends:

Many people know me as Sheena Barnes, BBQ & Soul Roll Lady, who puts love in her foods and serves you with a smile.

At or around 6 a.m., early morning, on June 13, I was removing cooked BBQ Beef Brisket from the grill preparing for the Father's Day weekend, International Rodeo held at the Wayne County fairgrounds in Belleville, Michigan.

I refrigerated the meats out at my BBQ stand. Suddenly, close shots fired and coming from the Jokers club house. In panic and shock, I waited in my barn for rounds to stop. In panic, I proceeded to walk across grass. A second round of gunfire. I hit the ground waiting for my safety in pitch dark trying to make back into my home.

Of course, I am seriously upset, mad, and angry because this is a continuation from the past to the present. I have bullet holes in my home from last year. Once I made it into the house, of course, when I thought I was safe, I was screaming at the Jokers through the brush! I then called emergency 911, after years of abuse and disrespectful behavior.

Some of the Jokers members just don't have respect for the surrounding neighborhood, or their next-door neighbors. I have lived next door to the Jokers since the beginning, when they moved into Sumpter Township.

The first year someone from the club was lost and did a turn-around in my drive and threw out beer cans. I left my house, walked down to their clubhouse and confronted them, saying that this red vehicle just pulled out of my driveway and threw cans out! I introduced myself. I told him who I was, and also told them that I was the same person who allowed their club members parking on the corner at Nate Barnes Market when their property was too wet and very few cars could park on their property. We got to an understanding and he made them get back into their vehicle and go pick up the empty beer cans.

The second incident was when my youngest son and I were driving down Sumpter Road coming from Belleville, headed home. We passed Bemis and Sumpter and the whole group of Jokers got behind me at the light. I am assuming that they were a different chapter of Jokers. Apparently, I was driving too slowly and one of the lead bikers proceeded to drive on the passenger side of my vehicle all the way to Sumpter and Willow Road at the four-way stop, which scared the heck out of my son.

They of course don't know that I live next door to the clubhouse. When I turned in my driveway, all the bikes behind me went into the Jokers' clubhouse. There are a few problems living next door to Jokers. The shooting! And, of course, bullet holes in my house. Experiencing loud, disruptive bikes. Revving up their motorcycles at three, four or five o'clock in the morning all summer long on weekends and, sometimes, when they have their monthly Friday meeting, it can get a little rowdy. I believe that's one of those nights when I caught a bullet in my home and shook my house like a bomb! With my house full of family and friends, with children in the home. Totally unacceptable!

I don't mind their big parties and mountainous bonfires and live bands with fireworks that light up the sky brightly. I get to enjoy it! But the shooting in any direction is not acceptable. My family and I are in great danger! My 91-year-old mother can't move fast or run. And my 4-year-old grandson is frightened and disturbed by the Jokers shooting during play time, also. He hits the ground every time saying, "Nana, I am scared they're going to shoot me." And the loud revving engine in the early morning is horrendously disruptive.

I don't have very many neighbors because of my surrounding location. There are no houses on either side of me. The Old Pioneer Apartments once owned by our Township Supervisor John Morgan. Across the street my neighbors are this large commercial greenhouse marijuana facility which I see with no fear for my safety there at all. It looks like it's a very tightly run facility. In fact, it looks like the township indeed "Opted In" there.

However, I have woken up in the middle of the night thinking it's a UFO outside

because of huge orange lights that can be seen for miles. The few residents here in this location are perfectly laid back and keep to themselves. We have all talked about the Jokers Club members' activity throughout the years.

After calling 911, Officer Beth of Sumpter came and a male Huron Township officer came for back up. I gave Sumpter Officer Beth my complaints and showed her the bullets in my home and explained what was going on. After that, she went to the Jokers and spoke to two gentlemen. She came back and stated that she had another complaint during her visit, while she was there. Officer Beth also suggested that I should go over there and try to introduce myself to the club members. I was appalled. I couldn't help but feel like she had put them above the law!

I said you're kidding me! Right!

However, I waited 11 days before I went to the Sumpter Township Police Department to receive a report. When I approached the receptionist window, I explained what I needed. She stated that she heard about it, however, the report was not in the system. She went to get some help in finding my report. Detective Toth came out a door to explain that he was not trying to give me the run-around, that I needed to talk to Officer Gannon and have a seat and he'll be back in a few! I said to him that I just saw him leave the building with his young son in a police car five minutes ago. Detective Toth said yes, he'll be right back. Dropping his son off. He'll be right back. Can you wait? I said no! I can't! Are you sure? Yes. I can't wait for Officer Gannon.

(continued on page 9)



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More Letters

(continued from page 8)

Something just didn't seem right. I really don't expect to be treated fairly by this whole administration due to the fact that while I served as a trustee on the board for 15 months there was a disparity in wages. All other trustees were paid \$23,000 a year; my wages were \$14,000. We are four trustees serving the same board. I was told by the administration because of my marital status my wage had disparities. Didn't make sense. I couldn't help but think I was being discriminated against. In March 2019, Discrimination Charges were

filed with the EEOC.

I was the first official black woman in history to sit on the Board of Trustees of Sumpter Township. Wow, what an honor to serve, truly.

Now that my family and I need the service of Sumpter Township on a residential level, what should I expect? Help keep my family from catching a bullet to the head and be killed at home. I'd like to be treated the same as any citizen and receive a full, accurate, and proper investigation. The police report is a normal formality. No special treatment!

Sheena Barnes

60-year Resident of Sumpter Township

Dr. David James Wilson Environmental Protection Bill introduced by Pagan

To the editor:

Last week, I introduced House Bill 4719 to prohibit the sale and use of coal-tar based products in Michigan. These harmful products are commonly used to seal driveways, parking lots and playgrounds.

House Bill 4719 will also be known as the "Dr. David James Wilson Environmental Protection Bill." Dr. Wilson was a true environmentalist and spent his life advocating for environmental issues. Dr. Wilson brought this important issue to my attention to discuss the hazards of coal-tar sealants and strongly advocated for this bill.

He also led the charge to prohibit the use of coal-tar in Van Buren Township in 2015. Unfortunately, Dr. Wilson passed away in 2017, but his work lives on through this legislation.

Coal-tar sealants release a class of chemicals called polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), some of which are highly toxic and known to cause birth defects and cancer. According to the Huron River Watershed Council, a person who lives near coal-tar-sealed pavement is 38 times more likely to develop cancer, on average, than someone who does not. In addition to the associated public health risks, PAHs found in coal-tar sealant products impact air, soil and freshwater quality throughout affected communities.

It seems like every week we are hearing of dangerous new contaminants in our water. Unfortunately, the PAH particles have been spreading into our soil, storm drains, lakes and rivers for quite some time now. The Great Lakes region is particularly affected, with 50 to 75 percent of all PAHs found in sediments within the area originating from coal-tar sealants.

Coal-tar-based products are known carcinogens that threaten the health of our children, contaminate our natural resources and generate hazardous waste in our communities. Thanks to the tireless work of Dr. Wilson, Van Buren Township became the first Michigan municipality to prohibit the use of coal-tar. It is beyond time to pursue a statewide stance on this

toxic product and I'm honored to propose this legislation in his memory.

Kristy Pagan

State Representative, 21st District

Van Buren Twp. sets opioid awareness forum, Narcan training Sept. 12

Van Buren Township, in cooperation with the Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority, announces a free Opioid Awareness Forum and Narcan Training session on Thursday, Sept. 12, at Wayne County Community College District, 9555 Haggerty Rd., Van Buren Township.

Speakers will include VBT Police Officer Ryan McCormick, Patrick Stropes of Growth Works, U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, and Darlene Owens, Director of Substance Use Disorder at DWMHA.

Fire Chief Amy Brow and Trustee Reggie Miller will serve as moderators.

Sign-in will begin at 5:30 p.m. with the forum starting promptly at 6 p.m. followed by questions and answers with the public and Narcan training. Those staying for training will have the opportunity to receive free Narcan kits, valued at over \$100. The event is expected to conclude at 7:45 p.m.

Macdennis Ikpeama of Belleville earns Comcast NBCUniversal scholarship

Macdennis Ikpeama of Belleville, a student at Arbor Preparatory High School in Ypsilanti, is among those earning a \$2,500 scholarship from Comcast NBCUniversal.

Comcast NBCUniversal has announced that it has awarded \$82,500 in scholarships for the 2018-19 school year to 33 Michigan students as part of its annual Leaders and Achievers® Scholarship Program. Students are selected for their outstanding community service, academic performance and leadership skills.

The award, funded by the Comcast NBCUniversal Foundation, is a one-time, \$2,500 scholarship to be used toward undergraduate education-related expenses.



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Published: June 27, 2019
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Court Watching:

Jessica Hurley sentenced to 9-40 years in prison for sex, drugs with teen

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Jessica Lynn Hurley, 32, was sentenced to from 9 to 40 years in prison after a jury found her guilty of six felonies involving having sex with and giving drugs to her minor step son.

She has been incarcerated in the Huron Valley Complex for women with her earliest release date of May 8, 2028 and her maximum release date of May 8, 2059.

On May 16 a Wayne County Circuit Court jury found her guilty of three charges

of criminal sexual conduct first degree (relationship), one charge of criminal sexual conduct third degree (multiple variables), delivery of narcotic to a minor (narcotic or cocaine) less than 50 grams, and furnishing alcohol to a minor.

The jury found her not guilty of one more count of first degree criminal sexual conduct and one count of delivery of marijuana to a minor.

On June 11, Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Kevin J. Cox pronounced the sentencing. She was taken into custody when the jury pronounced her guilty and Judge Cox gave her 33 days credit in the



Jessica Hurley

sentencing.

The preliminary exam in the case was held on Jan. 30 before 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley. After the exam Judge Oakley found there was enough probable cause to bind Hurley over to circuit court for trial.

The charges are dated Aug. 8, 2017 in Van Buren Township.

Hurley was free after posting \$25,000 cash bond. Her retained attorney was Michael Maddaloni of Lansing, where she had moved to reside with her brother.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Jacqueline Nicholas brought four witnesses forward to testify in the exam, which lasted about 90 minutes.

Three young family members testified along with the father of the victim, who filed the police report on his wife of ten years last fall after being informed of what was going on and questioning his son.

On the stand, the father referred to the defendant as "my soon-to-be ex-wife."

The victim, who was 15 in 2017, testified at length and in detail about the encounters with his stepmother at his father's home on Milton Drive in Van Buren Township when his father was at work. The victim's sister, then 17, testified to what she heard, and then a cousin testified. He said he told the father what was going on.

"He was a great guy ... He deserved to know," the cousin said of the father.

The victim testified that his stepmother told him, "Your dad can never find out about this. He'd kill us."

VB T Detective Dale Harrison was the officer in charge of the case. He arranged for the Kids' Talk interviews of the under-age witnesses.

"Many a small thing has been made large by the right kind of advertising."

Mark Twain



They're reading the Independent everywhere

Doug Dalton of Belleville reads his *Independent* in front of the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C. Doug and Pam Dalton took a week in late June to see all the important sites in D.C. A tour of the Capitol and White House were the highlights of the trip. Despite the heat and severe weather threats, a good time was had by all.

You, too, are invited to submit a photo of you reading the *Independent* in an exotic location. Please include the name and address of the person you wish to get the free subscription when it is printed. Include your phone number if you want us to let you know just before goes in the paper. A person may use this offer to get a total of two free subscriptions – and no more.

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Sumpter Board OKs agreement with FMAR to care for stray dogs

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Pete and Marcie LaFramboise of Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue were present at the June 25 meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees as the board unanimously approved a one-year agreement for FMAR to care for the township's stray dogs.

FMAR is a no-kill shelter on Arkona Road in Sumpter Township.

At the June 11 township board meeting, Public Safety Director/Police Chief Eric Luke said currently sworn police officers were checking on the dogs in the township's kennel at 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. and cleaning up the "poo." The dogs had no companionship, he said.

He said the present budget for the shelter is \$3,000 for utilities and \$2,600 for cleaning supplies. When checking other options, he found that the City of Romulus charges \$650 a month (\$7,800 a year) for the service, whether they bring any dogs or not.

Van Buren Township uses Romulus to care for its stray dogs.

In the agreement with FMAR, Sumpter would pay \$40 a dog for the five days required for the state mandatory hold and then FMAR will try to adopt them out. He said FMAR now has a state-of-the-art facility and they have plans to put a veterinarian in there, as well.

In the agreement, that renews itself each year unless cancelled by either side, FMAR will designate a two-lane dog run/kennel area for use by the township where dogs the township delivers will be kept.

The township police will have access to the shelter and will have one key (or code) to the shelter's outer door and access to the facility. Sumpter agrees not to access any other area of the facility unless specifically allowed to do so in writing and for specific purposes only.

Before entering the shelter, police should attempt to contact FMAR to say they will be entering. Once inside, police shall record all access to the facility by completing a sign in / sign out form. Sumpter will provide FMAR with whatever information it has on the dog.

In the event Sumpter houses a dog impounded under the township's Dangerous Dog Ordinance while the court case is proceeding, Sumpter agrees to pay FMAR an amount of \$40 per week for the period the dog is housed at the shelter.

Any dispute arising out of this agreement shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Wayne County Circuit Court or the 34th District Court.

In other business at the June 25 meeting, the board:

- Tabled a request by Treasurer Ken Bednark to apply the terms and conditions of the AFSME bargaining agreement to the current part-time treasurer's clerk. A motion was passed to pay Erica Campbell for hours worked over 20 for the next two weeks;

- Approved the recommendation of Hennessey Engineers to award the fire hall drain repair project to G.V. Cement of Brownstown Township in the amount of \$81,126.40 plus a 10% contingency, for a total of \$89,126.40. Only one bid came in;

- Tabled Resolution #2019-09, Sumpter Township Purchasing and Bid Policy;

- Accepted the immediate resignation of Vincent Tocco from the fire department;

- Approved paying Guardian Alarm \$675 for an intrusion alarm for Fire Station #2 and a monthly rate of \$58.95;

- Approved the Park Grant Funding Agreement with Wayne County for Banotai Park and Graham Park for fiscal year 2018-19;

- Heard Clerk Esther Hurst announce that Maryann Watson received the "Helping Hand Award" from Wayne County Senior Services. She also reported 12 Sumpter Seniors attended Older Michiganians Day in Lansing, 30 seniors went to Shipshewana with Bianco transportation services, and 17 seniors rode the new bus to Wayne County Senior picnic on June 22. She also encouraged everyone to support the Feed the Homeless project put on by the Senior Quilters. July 31 is the deadline for donations and Aug. 13 is the day they plan to take 100 pizzas and distribute them to the homeless;

- Heard Trustee Tim Rush invite the public to a 1-1/2-hour Skywarn training

session at 5:30 p.m., Friday, July 26, at the fire station. Trustee Rush will be the trainer. Those interested may call the clerk's office to be put on the list so they will know how many to plan for;

- Heard Ron Traskos give an update on his firm's work in the treasurer's and financial director offices. He said it was recommended his firm not do the audit for the 2018-19 fiscal year and the township put out a request for proposals. He recommended a two-year package. He said his firm will make sure everything is ready for the auditors and so they will have a "true audit." Treasurer Bednark said there had been three treasurers, five deputies, and two deaths related to his office over the past few years, a lot of people in and out a "revolving door." Traskos said they had expected to have a new financial director by now. "It was messy, but we cleaned things up," Traskos said of the financial records;

- Heard Water Billing Clerk Anna Winter explain the steps that lead to shutting off a customer's water for non-payment of their water bill. She said they have worked out a procedure and put in on paper, which hadn't been done in the past. Bednark said it is in the first draft, but board members could look at the draft. He said there is \$400,000 out there in water bill arrears and they are working to solve this problem. Water customers who need help can set up

a payment plan and seek other help. Winter said there are 50 people on payment plans right now;

- Heard Trustee Matthew Oddy say people are calling him complaining about the noise of air traffic over the township. They were supposed to be taking off higher, Oddy said. He suggested they circulate petition to approach the airport on this. Resident Mary Ban said the FAA held a meeting on the changes a year and a half ago in Sumpter and she's sure the township has a contact number on the issue;

- Heard Don Basham report that in the last three weeks people have died in Ohio and Illinois in motorcycle accidents because of slipping on wet grass clippings in the roadway. He said he is trying to educate people in the community about the dangers of grass clippings in the roadways and to point out Sumpter has a new law on this. He said he has sold more than 100 signs that say "Look Twice, Save a Life" and all the sign money will be sent to the families of the seven killed in New Hampshire when a truck hit a procession of motorcyclists;

- Heard Mary Ban complain about the terrible visibility at road crossings, especially on Elwell and Harris and Elwell and Willis. She called it a dangerous situation for the public and said if the county won't do it, maybe the township DPW could help out. She also praised the

(continued on page 13)

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Sumpter Twp.

(continued from page 12)

work of the fire department when she fell in her son's kitchen and couldn't get up. They came rapidly, got her up, and sat her in a chair. Ban also pointed out the damaged Welcome to Sumpter Township sign that needs to be replaced at the corner of Bemis and Rawsonville;

• Heard Andrew Slovik thank Karen Woodington in the supervisor's office for getting the county to come out to work on his road. "My road is as smooth as silk today," he said. Slovik questioned the resale inspections, saying some nearby communities have the inspection and some don't. "We already have a certificate of occupancy, no reason to make it so stringent," he said. Slovik said he has been in real estate since 1997 and he has a builder's license. "Any sale not cash has three inspections already," and this is turning into a nanny state. He said he came in earlier that day and had a debate on the issue with Supervisor John Morgan, Deputy Supervisor Karen Armatis, the planner and Woodington. He said when attorney Rob Young walked in they turned and walked away into the supervisor's office and closed the door. "I was perplexed. I was shut down and ignored," Slovik said. "You're not a rabble rouser," said Supervisor Morgan. "You're a nice guy. The attorney and I had an appointment. We had talked already for 15-20 minutes." Morgan said the planner was the one who

had the specific information on his issue. "You could have said, Andy, good to see you... It left a bitter taste," Slovik said. "... It hurt my feelings." Morgan said, "I gave you time ... If you were offended, I apologize";

• Heard Adrian Slaughter tell of the rifle shots in her neighborhood in the early morning hours of June 13. She heard a person screaming. She said some of the street lights aren't working and maybe getting those fixed would help. Lt. Pat Gannon said the police department is investigating. Slaughter gave copies of the state laws and township ordinances on discharging firearms in the township along with possession of firearm while intoxicated; and

• Heard Sharon Pokerwinski say her husband has lived in Sumpter all his life and she for 53 years and they never heard gunshots like in the last six years. She said people have been complaining on Facebook about how dirty Banotai Park is. She went out to check and found only one of the 30 people present at the park were from Sumpter. She suggested permits for Sumpter residents and if you're not from Sumpter you pay a fee. Then they can go out for bids for someone to handle the parks. She said she and her husband come out four times a week to mow the lawn and weed whack, but they can't do that every week and there's not enough on the Parks and Recreation Commission to do that. "I need to know what we can do," she said. She also said four wheelers are being allowed on the roads without licenses and the vehicles circling down the road raises the dust which is bad for those who are having breathing problems. She said she can't let her husband go outside because he has pneumonia.

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Taylor Rosa Renee Robinson graduated from Lincoln Senior High School with honors with the Class of 2019. Taylor lives with her father and mother Ronald Barrington Robinson and Sherry L. Johnson in Sumpter Township where she is a life-long resident. She plans to study Liberal Arts at Washtenaw Community College and finish her academic career at the University of Michigan.

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Mackenzie Kennedy played in the 2019 NJCAA Division II District Championship game in Sandusky, Ohio, May 13-15. The Cuyahoga Triceratops won the Division II region J championship. Which gave them a berth in 2019 NJCAA Division II National Women Softball championship in Clinton, Mississippi. The Triceratops were ranked 14 in the country. The Triceratops ended their season 35-11 setting many school and national records. Coach Bryan Komlos said, "Kennedy helped us win many games this year; she did everything to prove herself to us." Mackenzie is a 2018 graduate of Belleville High School. She is studying Physical Therapy with a minor in Sports and exercise science. Mackenzie is the daughter of George Kennedy and Wendy Shingles.

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Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztzman

Ron Akers, right, will work his last day as Director of Planning and Economic Development at Van Buren Township on July 10. He is moving to his new job at the City of Ypsilanti. At left, is Vidya Krishnan, principal planner from McKenna, who took over when McKenna's former planner assigned to VBT, Patrick Sloan, took a job with Canton Township.

Beaumont Health leases building in VBT

CBRE recently represented ownership in a 124,564-square-foot lease of a high-tech, industrial building to Beaumont Health at 41965 Ecorse Rd. in Van Buren Township. The tenant is Michigan's largest healthcare system.

Peter Rogers and Randall Allman of CBRE represented the owner, Brookwood Capital Partners, in the transaction. Beaumont Health

was represented by Insite Commercial.

The lease brings the property to 100% occupancy. Located near the Detroit Metro Airport with immediate access to I-275 and I-94, the property offers high-tech manufacturing and warehouse features.

Beaumont Health operates eight hospitals and 145 outpatient locations across Michigan.

Owen Intermediate School Media Center wins state library award

State Representative Kristy Pagan announced that earlier this month, the Library of Michigan awarded Owen Intermediate School Library Media Center in Van Buren Public Schools with the state's 2019-20 Model 21st Century School Library (SL 21) Award for its innovative collaborations with local educators.

The Model SL 21 program recognizes high-quality school libraries and library media specialists going above and beyond and promotes the development of similar initiatives in other schools, Rep. Pagan said.

The program is based on the LM's School Library 21st Century benchmarks. The Owen Intermediate School Library Media Center holds Exemplary status in the SL 21 program through March 2020.

"It is an honor to congratulate the Owen Intermediate School Library on this award and I applaud their commitment to providing high-quality resources to students in our community," Rep. Pagan said.

Liberty Gospel Church sets Summer Revival for July 11, 12, 13

Liberty Gospel Church, 105 N. Liberty St., Belleville, will hold its Summer Revival at 7 p.m. on July 11, 12, and 13, and everyone is welcome.

Pastor Bernie Travis and Associate Rev. Allan Childers said they are hoping for souls to be saved and that men, women, and children will be renewed in the Holy Spirit.

"We are expecting heart-felt singing and good preaching of the Word of God inspired by the Holy Ghost," Pastor Travis said. "Come and bring your family and friends. You will be loved."

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Former Belleville resident comes 'full circle' to AA Art Fair

By Amanda McLenon
BHS class of 1994

When I tell folks my story about exhibiting in the Ann Arbor Art Fair this summer, their response is inevitably, 100% of the time, a nod of the head and an utterance of the phrase "full circle."

It really is the best way to summarize my journey. I grew up in Belleville and attended the Ann Arbor Art Fair with my mom every year. As a high school student I even booth sat for a potter who was in the show.

I never thought about being an artist. Instead, inspired by my high school A.P. Biology teacher Dick Dokas, I went to the University of Michigan and graduated with a degree in biology and chemistry. I taught at Dexter High School, just west of Ann Arbor, for six years. In 2006, I moved to Charleston, SC, to pursue a Master's in Marine Biology. I planned to return to teaching, but my career took an unexpected turn.

During my studies, I began to paint as a creative outlet. My first images were painted in reverse on glass, and most were fish. I graduated from the College of Charleston and actually made the decision to leave my position as lab technician to job search full time, still believing my calling was marine education.

The day after I gave notice, I received a phone call for a large commission, painting 20 originals for fishing tournament trophies. I was over the moon. The commission was followed by many more. I was accepted to the coveted Charleston Farmers' Market as one of only a few juried artists, and in 2012 I received the Lowcountry Artist of the Year award. This award is a grant meant to further the career of an emerging artist and it gave me the opportunity to have my first solo show.

I have been a full-time artist since that day I gave notice, almost 10 years now. Travel has been a big part of my path with exhibits at the Neptune Festival and Virginia Beach Boardwalk shows in Virginia, Winter Park Sidewalk Festival in Florida, Piccolo Spoleto Outdoor Art



Amanda McLenon

Exhibit in my hometown of Charleston, SC, and even a show inside a castle as part of the Atalaya Arts Festival.

This summer, I am planning to visit family and on a whim I applied to the Ann Arbor Art Guild Summer Show. Ironically, the same teacher who inspired me to study biology also happens to be an amazing photographer. He has exhibited in this show for many years. When I opened the email that said I was accepted, and I realized I would be showing my paintings just down from Mr. Dokas on State Street, I have to admit I muttered to myself, "full circle."

You can find my work on State Street as part of the Guild of Artists and Artisans Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair, July 18-21, in booth ST568. Exclusive to this show, I'm debuting a new series of songbird paintings, as well as charcoal studies. My large-scale work features birds on canvas gilded with silver, gold and copper leaf.

www.amandamcLenon.com

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School Board OKs VBEST contract, 80/20 language of PA 152

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education met in a 15-minute special session Friday with a bare quorum to tend to two items removed from the Monday meeting agenda earlier in the week.

The board voted unanimously to approve the tentative one-year agreement with the Van Buren Educational Support Team (VBEST) that included:

- MESSA 500/1000 or ABC Plan 1, employee choice (80/20);
- Six Act of God days;
- Steps for all eligible employees;
- \$1.10/hr. raise for paraprofessionals, on schedule;
- 0.5% raise for custodial, maintenance, transportation, and mechanics, on schedule;
- Other mutually agreed upon contract changes; and

• Current longevity language in the collective bargaining agreement sunsets end of contract. Transportation department will be added to custodial language for longevity pay.

School Supt. Pete Kudlak said the reason it was removed from Monday's agenda and approved in Friday's meeting was because when VBEST voted on it June 20, the information provided to union members was slightly incorrect. He said they distributed the correct information to their members and then voted again during the week to again approve the contract.

In the next item of business during its meeting, the board approved the 80/20 language recommendation for Employer/Employee Health Care Cost Option as set forth in 2011 Public Act 152. This is for the

medical benefit plan coverage year July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

One of the options is Section 4 of PA 152 which limits a public employer's share of total annual health care costs to not more than 80%. This option requires an annual majority vote of the governing body.

The board also approved the resignations of David Fletcher, as of July 31, after 18 years on the grounds crew, and Allison Winters, as of June 27, after 1-1/2 years as a custodian.

During the public comment part of the meeting, Marcus Hosman, president of the Van Buren Education Association teachers' union, spoke on the 80/20 resolution.

He said during negotiations of the recently approved VBEA contract, it was believed once the long-term contracts were all in place, the hardcap would be in effect, "to make sure we did the best for our members."

He referred to another option of PA 152, Section 3 - "Hard Caps" Option, which limits a public employer's total annual health care costs for employees based on coverage levels, as defined in the Act. [It is \$18,200, going up to \$18,500 in January.]

A third option in PA 152 is for a local government to exempt itself from the requirements of the Act by an annual 2/3 vote of the governing body.

Hosman said they spent countless hours and days in negotiation and it was believed they were working to a hardcap. Now the district is moving back to 80/20. It simply changed.

"I feel that I'm Charlie Brown and Lucy keeps moving the football," Hosman said.

He said when the other bargaining units

were off the books, it was supposed to be hardcap flat for everyone.

He accused the district of pitting groups against each other. He said the bargaining was not right over the last two years.

Tim Miller, chief negotiator for the union, said after establishing stability and trust by agreeing to where they all are going, they make a sudden left turn.

Miller said the teachers came off the MESSA health care plan to a system the district recommends to begin to offer things the employees want. He said some teachers didn't want to change. He said it is upsetting when suddenly "we make changes like this."

Human Resource Director Abdul Madyun said it was difficult negotiating with VBEST, particularly with the subject of medical insurance.

"They did agree to take insurance that was less costly than before," Director Madyun said, noting they kept to a one-year contract so next year "we can get them

where we want them to be."

He said any savings to the district in insurance costs was put on their salaries. Madyun said the paraprofessionals were grossly underpaid. He said they studied what other districts were paying in Wayne County and found Dearborn was paying \$20/hour compared to Van Buren paying \$14/hour after 15 years here.

"If they made other choices, it would have gone on their salaries," Supt. Kudlak said.

Madyun said other groups got \$2,000 each for changing to the new health care plan, but VBEST only got \$750 because they chose to keep the much more expensive insurance.

While discussing the 80/20 option before the vote, Madyun explained whatever the cost of the medical insurance, the district pays 80%. This decision must be made every June and next year the board could decide not to do it.



Belleville Moose Lodge #934 and Shielded Souls Motorcycle Club in New Boston worked together on a cereal drive. Posing for a picture on June 16 at the motorcycle club are, from left: Tiffany Hall, Debbie Williams, Tabitha Blanton-Mellberg, Danny Williams, Russell Walker, Moose #934's Governor Jimmy Fugate, Sharon Poster, Ann Lewis, Gayle Vernatt, Audrina Hall, Caralee Fonzerrelli, Michele Walker, and Dillon Marshall. Marshall organized the cereal drive to help local food banks with distributing cereal to needy children. Food banks report they cannot keep enough cereal on hand. Moose #934 donated 442 boxes toward Shielded Souls total of 2,294 boxes of cereal. "Thanks to people like this, fewer children will be hungry," Marshall said.



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VBT Plan

(continued from page 1)

at 8705 Belleville Rd., north of Tyler Road. Craig Atchinson said he bought the property in March and tore down a building there in April. He said he plans more improvements to the property, including securing the fencing and possibly adding some security lights. Commissioner Medina Atchinson left the board table to sit in the audience during this agenda item and she did not participate in the consideration of her husband's request or the vote;

- Approved a site plan amendment requested by Infinity Homes revising single-family architectural elevations for houses in the unfinished Townsend Park subdivision on the east side of Morton Taylor Road, north of Ecorse Road, with the stipulation that each single family home would be reviewed by township staff on setbacks and to make sure it is substantially different than its neighbors. It also was recommended that the applicant make efforts to obtain architectural approval from the homeowners' association of Townsend Park, if there is one. Rino Soave of Infinity Homes said his company had 30 sales over the last two years in Country Walk and used similar elevations. He said they have 24-25 sites in Townsend Park and they are working in 14 different communities in Southeastern Michigan. Commission vice chairman Donald Boynton asked him to reach out to the homeowners' association at Country Walk and he said he would be glad to; and

- Discussed a report on narrow lakefront lots in the township that was requested by the Board of Zoning Appeals. The report was completed by planning and economic development intern Grace Stamper before she left for new employment in Hamtramck. The BZA was concerned about lots that are 50 feet wide or narrower, since current setback requirements and the requirement that houses have to be 24 feet wide on all sides do not leave a viable building envelope. There were 15 lakefront lots on the list, with a lot on Ormond Drive being the smallest at 31 feet along the lake. Krishnan said in Northville Township they have put in an overlay district around the lake that puts the setback at 15% of the width. She said it is fair to all and has not been challenged. Thompson said she wasn't sure they needed an overlay district for 4-5 lots, but something that was fair was needed. Akers said he would come up with something to present to them.

Edwards, Harris graduate from University of Alabama

TUSCALOOSA, AL -- The University of Alabama awarded some 5,716 degrees during its spring commencement May 3-5.

Chelsea Marie Edwards of Belleville earned a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering.

Robert Preston Harris II of Belleville, earned a Bachelor of Arts.

Edwards also was named to the President's List for spring 2019 for having an academic record of 4.0 (all A's).



Sumpter Township Public Notice



SUMPTER TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT 2018 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Drinking water quality is important to our community and the region. Sumpter Twp and the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) are committed to meeting state and federal water quality standards including the Lead and Copper Rule. With the Great Lakes as our water source and proven treatment technologies, the GLWA consistently delivers safe drinking water to our community. Sumpter Twp operates the system of water mains that carry this water to your home's service line. This year's Water Quality Report highlights the performance of GLWA and Sumpter Twp water professionals in delivering some of the nation's best drinking water. Together, we remain committed to protecting public health and maintaining open communication with the public about our drinking water.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

The vulnerability of some populations to contaminants in drinking water.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

LEAD

Safe drinking water is a shared responsibility. The water that GLWA delivers to our community does not contain lead. Lead can leach into drinking water through home plumbing fixtures, and in some cases, customers service lines. Corrosion control reduces the risk of lead and copper from leaching into your water. Orthophosphates are added during the treatment process as a corrosion control method to create a protective coating in service pipes throughout the system, including your home or business. Sumpter Township performs required lead and copper sampling and testing in our community. Water customers also have a responsibility to maintain the plumbing in their homes and businesses, and can take steps to limit their exposure to lead.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

(Continued on page 19)



Sumpter Township Public Notice



(Continued from page 18)

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Sumpter Township is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Where does my water come from?

Your source water comes from the Detroit River, situated within the Lake St. Clair, and several watersheds within U.S. and Canada. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality in partnership the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and several other governmental agencies performed a source water assessment in 2004 to determine the susceptibility or relative potential of contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a seven-tiered scale from "very low" to "very high" based primarily on geologic sensitivity, water chemistry, and contamination sources. The susceptibility of our Detroit River source water intakes were determined to be highly susceptible to potential contamination. However, all four Detroit water treatment plants that use source water from Detroit River have historically provided satisfactory treatment of this source water to meet drinking water standards.

GLWA initiated source-water protection activities that include chemical containment, spill response, and a mercury reduction program. GLWA participates in a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit discharge program and has an emergency response management plan. GLWA voluntarily developed and receive approval in 2016 for a source water protection program (SWIPP) for the Detroit River intakes. The programs includes seven elements that include the following: roles and duties of government units and water supply agencies, delineation of a source water protection area, identification of potential of source water protection area, management approaches for protection, contingency plans, siting of new sources and public participation and education.

Sumpter Twp and the Great Lakes Water Authority are committed to safeguarding our water supply and delivering the highest quality drinking water to protect public health. Please contact us with any questions or concerns about your water.

Sumpter Township Water Department
23480 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111
(734) 461-6201 x 2242

(Continued on page 20)

Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



B & L Moving & Maintenance Services of Belleville offers everything from handyman services and landscaping to painting and industrial duct work. Visit www.blmoving.com and call owner Warren Crockett at (734) 678 7749.

With summer officially here, the folks at Deck Repair & Restoration are ready to help you bring back the condition of your weathered deck, with pressure washing, painting and staining, leveling, even the replacement of damaged deck boards, railings, and stairs. See their ad in today's paper and call Malik at (313) 753-9881 for a free estimate.

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue of Sumpter still has a few openings to golf in their 10th-annual Golf Fundraiser coming up on Saturday, July 20, at Green Oaks Golf Course in Ypsilanti. The cost is \$65 per golfer and \$260 per team for the best ball event. Sponsorships are also available. Call Dawn at (734) 904-9060 or Heather at (734) 444-8445.

The Summer Concert Series at the Van Buren Township Senior Activity Garden gets underway at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 10, and runs for three weeks with the Dan Rafferty Band, followed by the Blue Water Kings Band on July 17, and Fifty Amp Fuse on July 24. The concerts are free. Bring a chair.

To build a better world, start in your own community!

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

JULY BOARD OF REVIEW CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The BOARD OF REVIEW of the Charter Township of Van Buren will meet at the Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road on Tuesday, July 16, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting will be:

- 1) To correct clerical errors or mutual mistakes of fact;
- 2) Homestead exemption status; and
- 3) Poverty exemptions.

Any property owner who believes they qualify should call Van Buren Township Assessing Department at 734.699.8946 prior to July 16, 2019.

Leon Wright
Van Buren Charter Township

Post: July 1, 2019
 Publish: July 4, 2019
 July 11, 2019



City of Belleville Public Notice



City of Belleville JULY BOARD OF REVIEW



The **BOARD OF REVIEW** of the City of Belleville will meet at City Hall, 6 Main Street on Tuesday, July 16, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

The purpose of the meeting will be to correct clerical errors or mutual mistakes of fact pertaining to the 2019 property assessments.

Property assessments can be changed only for:

1. Principal residence exemptions
2. Poverty exemptions
3. Disabled veterans' exemptions

Sherri Scharf
City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: July 4, 2019

VBT DDA approves more funds for the Placemaking project

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At its regular meeting June 24, the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority approved spending \$33,826.10 more for the Placemaking project, now under construction behind the Remerica business at 10151 Belleville Rd.

DDA Executive Director Susan Ireland proposed the following change orders:

- Adding attic sheathing for \$3,668.50;
- Pressure-treating the wood in the truss and bearing beams of the canopy with a wood preservative for \$3,162.50;
- Adding a floor hatch in the mechanical room to access the crawl space from inside the building, \$1,707.75;
- Adding heavy-duty garage door opener because of the weight of the garage doors selected, \$2,454.10;
- Adding ADA accessible high-low water fountain, as required, for \$9,867. Since a water fountain originally was located in the third building and that building is not being constructed it was necessary to install it inside of the building and make closet modifications; and
- Replacing the asphalt removed from the Remerica property and hauled off site for manhole modifications while doing the sewer tap, and sealing and striping the remainder of the parking lot to make up for the inconvenience caused to this business for \$12,966.25. DDA vice chairwoman Carol Bird was allowed to abstain from this decision because she had a direct conflict of interest.

The construction contingency fund now stands at \$73,127.82.

Ireland also requested the DDA purchase the furniture for the main Placemaking building from HLF Furniture in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 from Capital Outlay and also approve transfer of \$24,000 from Capital Outlay for internet and security equipment, vacuum, broom, cleaning products, wall monitor for the conference room, and other necessary operating supplies.

HLF Furniture of VBT was the high bidder at \$45,176, even with the 5% allowance given to local bidders. American Interiors was \$38,652.85 and National Business Furniture bid \$38,822.65, without shipping or installation.

Ireland said HLF also has furnished McDonalds Offices, New World Trade Center, National Association of Builders, Avenues of the World School in New York City, Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore, Microsoft, Michigan State University, University of Michigan, Red Bull Headquarters, Screen Actors and Writers Guild, Athletic Department of the University of Georgia and Foxborough, Massachusetts City Hall.

Ireland reported that at the Placemaking project, the approaches have been poured, exterior doors and windows installed, drywall put in place, stone and brick work almost completed, fencing put up in back, and the stamped concrete just poured.

In other business at the June 24 meeting, the DDA:

- Heard Ireland say she is looking into the possibility of putting two trash receptacles and two benches along the new pedestrian pathway over I-94. MDOT has a long list of requirements and the DDA has to make sure these items can't be thrown onto the freeway. The drainage issues on the path, where the sandbags were put, are being addressed;
- Heard Ireland report some of the locust

trees in the Belleville Road streetscape had bagworms and one oak tree by Meijer is showing signs of Oak Wilt and that tree will be removed. Two maples appear to have Verticillium Wilt and may not survive. The tree by Atchinson Ford that was struck and tied up with rope appears to be surviving. A few trees need to come down near the former DNR site;

- Heard Ireland report that Halophane finally sent her replacement part numbers for decorative light poles so replacements

can be ordered. She said the recent accident that took out a light pole in front of McDonald's will have to wait until the new replacements can be ordered;

- Approved the DDA financial audit of fiscal year 2018 completed by Plante Moran; and
- Heard Assistant DDA Executive Director Lisa Lothringer report on her many projects promoting the district.



Sumpter Township Public Notice



(Continued from page 19)

Key to the Detected Contaminants Table

Symbol	Abbreviation	Definition/Explanation
>	Greater than	
°C	Celsius	A scale of temperature in which water freezes at 0° and boils at 100° under standard conditions.
AL	Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
HAA5	Haloacetic Acids	HAA5 is the total of bromoacetic, chloroacetic, Dibromoacetic, dichloroacetic, and trichloroacetic acids. Compliance is based on the total.
Level 1	Level 1 Assessment	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in the water system.
Level 2	Level 2 Assessment	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
LRAA	Locational Running Annual Average	The average of analytical results for samples at a particular monitoring location during the previous four quarters.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRLDG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
n/a	not applicable	
ND	Not Detected	
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units	Measures the cloudiness of water.
pCi/L	Picocuries Per Liter	A measure of radioactivity
ppb	Parts Per Billion (one in one billion)	The ppb is equivalent to micrograms per liter. A microgram = 1/1000 milligram.
ppm	Parts Per Million (one in one million)	The ppm is equivalent to milligrams per liter. A milligram = 1/1000 gram.
RAA	Running Annual Average	The average of analytical results for all samples during the previous four quarters.
TT	Treatment Technique	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
TTHM	Total Trihalomethanes	Total Trihalomethanes is the sum of chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane and bromoform. Compliance is based on the total.
µohms	Microhms	Measure of electrical conductance of water

(Continued on page 21)

Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, July 4** – Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 6-8 p.m., Detroit Elvis
- **Thursday, July 4** – Belleville Lake in front of the Belleville Yacht Club will be closed from 9:45 to 11 p.m. for the annual fireworks and the DNR approval requires this closing of the lake. Wayne County Sheriff's Deputies and Van Buren Township Marine Patrol will be present to turn away boats.

- **Sunday, July 7** – Jr. Order of the Eagles (J.O.E.S.) invites you to a fund-raising breakfast from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Van Buren Eagles 3996, 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township.
- **Sunday, July 7** – Bugles Across America at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial in Horizon Park in Belleville. A brief ceremony honors those with past and present military service. The playing of "Taps" is always a part of the ceremony.
- **Monday, July 8 through Friday, July 12** – Victory Vacation Bible School, 6:30-8:30 p.m., ages 3 through 6th grade, at Belleville Free Will Baptist Church, 750 E.

- Huron River Dr. Everyone welcome.
- **Wednesday, July 10** – Summer Concert Series on Wednesdays through July 24, 7 p.m., at Quirk Park Senior Activity Garden, 46425 Tyler Rd., behind the Van Buren Township Hall. Free. Bring your chairs. Tonight it's the Dan Rafferty Band playing Top 40, Popular, R&B.
- **Thursday, July 11** – Bunco 6-9 p.m. at the Van Buren Eagles 3996, 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township. (734) 699-8836
- **Thursday, July 11** -- Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m., Jill Jack, Rock/Folk.
- **Thursday, July 11; Friday, July**

- 12; Saturday, July 13** – Liberty Gospel Church, 105 N. Liberty St., Belleville, is holding its Summer Revival at 7 p.m. each day. Pastor Bernie Travis said they are hoping for souls to be saved and that men, women, and children will be renewed in the Holy Spirit.
- **Sunday, July 14** – September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Rd., offers free Sunday music from 2 to 5 p.m. This week it's Waco Band. For information: Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.
- **Wednesday, July 17** – Summer Concert Series on Wednesday through July 24, 7

p.m., at Quirk Park Senior Activity Garden, 46425 Tyler Rd., behind the Van Buren Township Hall. Free. Bring your chairs. Tonight it's The Blue Water Kings Band (Jazz, Swing, Popular).

• **Thursday, July 18** – Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m., The Bobby Murray Band, blues.

• **Friday, July 19** – Eagle Riders Steak Dinner, 5-8 p.m., Van Buren Eagles 3996, 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township. (734) 699-8836

• **Saturday, July 20** – Wine Tasting Party, 5-8 p.m., Van Buren Eagles 3996, 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township. (734) 699-8836

• **Sunday, July 21** – September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Rd., offers free Sunday music from 2 to 5 p.m. This week it's Waco Band. For information: Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Wednesday, July 24** – VBT Summer Concert Series winds up. It's 7 p.m. at Quirk Park Senior Activity Garden, 46425 Tyler Rd., behind the Van Buren Township Hall. Free. Bring your chairs. Tonight it's 50 Amp Fuse (Popular '60s music, current, R&B).

• **Thursday, July 25** – Bunco, 6-9 p.m., Van Buren Eagles, 3996, 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township. (734) 699-8836

• **Thursday, July 25** – Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m., The Stubbs Girls, Motown.

• **Saturday, July 27** – State Rep. Kristy Pagan will be present at 10 a.m. at Belleville City Hall for a coffee hour with constituents. Tell her your concerns about state issues.

Sumpter Township Public Notice

(Continued from page 20)

Southwest Water Treatment Plant 2018 Regulated Detected Contaminants Tables

2018 Inorganic Chemicals – Monitoring at the Plant Finished Water Tap								
Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Fluoride	6-12-2018	ppm	4	4	0.66	n/a	no	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive, which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	6-12-2018	ppm	10	10	0.41	n/a	no	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	5-16-2017	ppm	2	2	0.01	n/a	no	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits

2018 Disinfection By-Products – Monitoring in Distribution System, Stage 2 Disinfection By-Products									
Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level MCL	Highest LRAA	Range of Detection	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water	
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2018	ppb	n/a	80	67	30 to 67	no	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2018	ppb	n/a	60	17	11 to 16	no	By-product of drinking water disinfection	

2018 Disinfectant Residuals – Monitoring in Distribution System by Treatment Plant									
Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MRDLG	Allowed Level MRDL	Highest RAA	Quarterly Range of Detection	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water	
Total Chlorine Residual	Jan-Dec 2018	ppm	4	4	0.58	0.48-0.61	no	Water additive used to control microbes	

2018 Turbidity – Monitored every 4 hours at Plant Finished Water			
Highest Single Measurement Cannot exceed 1 NTU	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Turbidity Limit of 0.3 NTU (minimum 95%)	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
0.19 NTU	100 %	no	Soil Runoff
Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.			

2017 Lead and Copper Monitoring at Customers' Tap								
Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MCLG	Action Level AL	90 th Percentile Value*	Number of Samples over AL	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Lead	2017	ppb	0	15	2	0	no	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	2017	ppm	1.3	1.3	.13	0	no	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.

*The 90th percentile value means 90 percent of the homes tested have lead and copper levels below the given 90th percentile value. If the 90th percentile value is above the AL additional requirements must be met.

(Continued on page 22)

Court Watching:

Ryan McLaughlin bound over to circuit court on assault charges

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Ryan Dean McLaughlin, 30, waived his preliminary exam before 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley on June 26 and Judge Oakley bound him over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on July 3.

McLaughlin is charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, domestic violence, and assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer on June 9 in the City of Belleville.

He was lodged in the Wayne County Jail on a bond of \$20,000/10%. His court-appointed attorney is William Robert Courtright.

David Russell Smith

David Russell Smith, 55, had a preliminary exam set for June 26 before Judge Oakley and it was adjourned until July 31 at the request of the Wayne County Prosecutor and Smith's court-appointed

defense attorney.

He is charged with possession of methamphetamine/ecstasy, obstructing by disguise, and operating while license suspended on March 16, 2018 in Sumpter Township.

He is free after posting bond.

Smith's codefendant is Xylina Amanda Fisher, 34, who also is charged with possession of methamphetamine/ecstasy and obstructing by disguise.

Tamara Jean Goins

Tamra Jean Goins, 36, waived her preliminary exam by video from the Wayne County Jail. Judge Oakley bound her over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information July 3.

She is charged with possession of narcotics or cocaine less than 25 grams in Van Buren Township on Nov. 2, 2018. Her court-appointed attorney is Joshua Gordon.

John David Clift

John David Clift, 55, waived his preliminary exam before Magistrate Lisa Martin and she bound him over to circuit court for a July 3 arraignment on the information. Clift is charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder and domestic violence on June

13 in Van Buren Township. He is lodged in the Wayne County Jail. His bond was set at \$10,000/10% on this charge and he was referred to pre-trial services for a bond review. His retained attorney is Robert Coutts.

James Patrick Fisher

James Patrick Fisher, 50, waived his

preliminary exam before Magistrate Martin and was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on July 3. He is charged with operating while intoxicated 3rd and driving while license suspended on April 27 in Van Buren Township. He is lodged in the Wayne County Jail on bond of \$50,000/10%.

Belleville Area District Library Public Notice

REQUEST FOR SUBCONTRACTOR BIDS

New Belleville Area District Library: 167 Fourth St., Belleville, MI 48111

Bid categories at this time includes: Millwork (cabinets, counter tops, sills)

Bid Packs, Plans and Specifications are available electronically through Construction Manager, O'Neal Construction, Inc., 525 W. William, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Questions call (734) 769-0770 or email: mratzow@onealconstruction.com

Refer to instructions to bidders regarding, bids are due on Friday, 07/12/2019 @ 12:00 Noon.

All bids are required to be in a sealed envelope.

Deliver to: Belleville Area District Library, 167 Fourth St., Belleville, MI 48111

Publish: July 4, 2019; July 11, 2019

Upcoming Meetings

• Tuesday, July 9 – Van Buren Township Local Development Financing Authority meets at 2 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m.

• Wednesday, July 10 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Thursday, July 11 – Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

• Monday, July 15 – Van Buren Township work/study meeting, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, July 16 – Van Buren Township regular meeting, 6 p.m.

• Wednesday, July 17 – Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Environmental Commission, 7 p.m.

• Monday, July 22 – Belleville Parks and Recreation Commission, 4 p.m.



Sumpter Township Public Notice



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Southwest Water Treatment Plant 2018 Regulated Detected Contaminants Tables

Regulated Contaminant	Treatment Technique 2018	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	The Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal ratio is calculated as the ratio between the actual TOC removal and the TOC removal requirements. The TOC was measured each quarter and because the level was low, there is no TOC removal requirement	Erosion of natural deposits

Radionuclides 2014							
Regulated contaminant	Test date	Unit	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level	Level detected	Violation Yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking water
Combined Radium 226 and 228	5-13-14	pCi/L	0	5	0.65 + or - 0.54	no	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected 2018	Source of Contamination
Sodium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	6.36	Erosion of natural deposits

GLWA voluntarily monitors for Cryptosporidium and Giardia in our untreated source water monthly. The untreated water samples collected from our Southwest plant indicated the presence of one Giardia cyst in March. In addition, monitoring indicated the presence of one Giardia cyst and one Cryptosporidium oocyst in the untreated water from the Southwest plant in July. Additional testing was performed on the treated water at the Southwest plant and Cryptosporidium was absent. All other samples collected in the year 2018 were absent for the presence of Cryptosporidium and Giardia. Systems using surface water like GLWA must provide treatment so that 99.9 percent of Giardia lamblia is removed or inactivated.

Cryptosporidium is a microbial parasite found in surface water throughout the United States. Although Cryptosporidium can be removed by filtration, the most commonly used filtration cannot guarantee 100% removal. Current test methods do not enable us to determine if these organisms are dead or alive. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea and abdominal cramps. Most healthy persons can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people (such as those with AIDS, undergoing chemotherapy or recent organ transplant recipients) are at a greater risk of developing a severe, life-threatening illness. Immuno-compromised persons should contact their doctor to learn about appropriate precautions to prevent infection. Cryptosporidium must be taken in through the mouth to cause disease and it may be passed by other means than drinking water.

(Continued on page 23)

Environmental Commission gets details on draw-down cancel

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

There will be no drawdown of the water in Belleville Lake this fall.

Matthew Best, Van Buren Township director of public services, told the Environmental Commission at its June 19 meeting that Supervisor Kevin McNamara announced two days earlier that the proposed lake drawdown has been cancelled for this year.

He said Supervisor McNamara said it "was due to the response we got back from the pre-application process, which is quite onerous and will take time. The amount of time won't allow us to get the permit this

year."

Commissioner Ronald Merritt noted that the permit was applied for last year.

Best said it took time for Eagle Creek, the operators of the dam, to do the environmental study, the Indian Tribal and Architectural studies. Once you got them all, you can apply, Best said.

"The supervisor made the decision," Best said. "Rather than push forward, we want to do it right."

"I've been telling people it would be this fall -- as soon as a month ago," said Trustee Paul White, the township board's representative on the commission. "Is there paperwork to show them? Is the state to

blame?"

"It's not that the state held it up," Best said. "There's a lot of hoops to jump through." Best said they were going to have volunteer sampling of the sedimentary bed microbes, before, during, and after the drawdown, he said. He said Eagle Creek proposed volunteers to sample the bugs in the bottom of the lake bed and, "The Eagle Creek program sounded like it was insufficient."

Best said there is timing to consider and you have to prove its not spawning time, rather than rush it.

Commission chairman David Brownlee said these requirements are all do-able

things, but will take time.

"Are we not going to do it?" Brownlee asked.

"I don't know," Best said. "It depends on the Eagle Creek response and DNR comments. He said they haven't heard back from the Fisheries yet.

"The pre-application was sent to the DNR and it costs a little bit of money," Best said. "We would have to jump through a lot of hoops. The DNR looks at different things. There's not enough time to get it all done by August or September."

When asked if it had anything to do with PFAS in the water, he said it had nothing to do with PFAS.

Trustee White pressed: "When did they apply?"

Best replied that Eagle Creek turned it in and the state said you have to do this, this, and this. "There are comments from the DNR on what we have to do," Best said.

He said, "We knew going in it may not happen. We thought the permit would be in hand in August. We will continue to talk with Eagle Creek and work with them."

"Nothing is happening this year," Brownlee said.

"Is there anything this group can do to help?" asked Commissioner Ross and Best said there wasn't.

Best said there was one benefit of doing this. They held a workshop in February on how to stabilize the banks and they can still do work. Some work is easier with the water in place, he said.

"If the BYC wanted to do another lakeside cleanup, they could," Best said. "This group could, and volunteers.

"The process is a benefit to our lakefront owners," Best said. "We had 100 residents attend, almost as many as came to opposed the lakeshore ordinance."

Best said as soon as he gets information back from Eagle Creek, he'll bring it back to this group.

Trustee White said when Best gets this information, he should send it to the entire group and they all should get it when it becomes available and not wait for a commission meeting.

"I can do that," Best said, adding sometimes he gets information.

White said they should get anything concerning the lake drawdown, from any source.

Chairman Brownlee said he took notes on everything Best said about the drawdown and he still doesn't know how to explain it to the people in the community.

"We may not be able to get the permit in time for this year," Best said, adding it has to be done in the fall because they won't let them do it in the spring due to spawning. Then, there is a 120-day comment period.

"Why push it and try to rush it?" Best asked.

"We're not rushing it," White replied. "It's been going on for 18 months. It should be farther along."

"It doesn't mean Eagle Creek and the

Sumpter Township Public Notice

(Continued from page 22)



Great Lakes Water Authority
Water Quality

DISTRIBUTION AND BRACKETING - BRACKETING POINTS FOR A TOWN

Town: SUMPTER TWP.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Removed</u>	<u>Pt.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Address</u>
	1		Township Hall - Restroom	23480 Sumpter Rd.
		A	Play It Again Sam Bar	17400 Savage Road
12/10/2010		B	Lincoln-Bessie Hoffman Jr. Hig	50700 Willow
		C	Police Department	23501 Sumpter Road
10/12/2005	2		Medical Center - sink	19130 Sumpter Rd. @ Willis
10/12/2005		A	Bogg's Mini Mart	17441 Sumpter Road
10/12/2005		B	South Fire Hall	27997 Sumpter Road
11/08/2010	3		Sumpter Collision - Restroom	21575 Sumpter Rd. At Judd
11/08/2010		A	North Fire Hall	19731 Sumpter Road
11/08/2010		B	Dorow residence	48939 Wear Road
11/08/2010		C	S. Fire Hall	27997 Sumpter Road
	4		Willow Party Store-Utility sink	25622 Sumpter Road
		A	Littletown Liquor & Deli	21625 Sumpter Road
		B	South Fire Hall	27997 Sumpter Road
11/19/2010	5		Speedy's Gas & Groceries	17441 Sumpter Road

Total number of distribution Point numbers :5

Total number of distribution Point numbers in Service : 2

Total number of Bracket Point numbers : 10

Total number of Bracket Point numbers in Service :4

(Continued on page 24)

(continued on page 24)

Environmental

(continued from page 23)

DNR were talking back then,” Best said, adding the procedure is called “A Change in the Route of River Plan.”

White asked where they can go to get all the information on lake drawdowns. He said he would like to know what’s all involved.

Best said he didn’t think it was on line.

Best said it hasn’t been 18 months to get to the permit and Eagle Creek had been working on it.

The Environmental Commission recommended the drawdown a year ago February, so it’s been 16 months White said.

Best said he is proud of the elected officials and the trustees who worked on this.

“I think we’ve done everything very well,” Best said.

In other business at the June 19 meeting, the commission:

- Heard Best report on a Coal Tar Webinar he participated in on June 18 with the Huron River Watershed Council. Best said he told why VBT pushed for a coal tar ban under the leadership of the late Dr. Dave Wilson. He said he told how it evolved from a public education ordinance to an ordinance with fees. He said Grosse Ile did the same thing and they told how VBT helped them. Best said the state may also ban coal tar, but it wants to fix the roads first;

- Heard Best report that US Ecology got permission to remove and replace ground water test wells, which is pretty standard, he said. DEQ send out cards when a change is made and people can sign up to stay informed;

- Heard Best report repairs are being done to the fishing pier at French Landing Park;

- Heard Commissioner Tony Gibson said the commission hasn’t done a public service project in a couple of years and he’d like to do one. Brownlee put it on the agenda for the next meeting;

- Heard White report that a septic system is not working and sewage is being dumped into a ditch on Martinsville Road. He asked who to call and Best gave him the number of Dave Wilson at the Wayne County Environmental Health Department, (734) 727-7417. Best said he has another sewage dump at another location with a house at the end of a long, private drive;

- Heard Brownlee recommend reading the April 28 issue of the Detroit Free Press with a “very disturbing” article on PFAS. Brownlee said he has seen people putting fish in a bucket and he wonders if they are taking it home for fertilizer since there is a do-not-eat-the-fish alert on Belleville Lake. When it was pointed out Horizon Park had no do-not-eat-the-fish signs, Best said that was the City of Belleville and it should put them up; and

- Heard Best report that new signs will be added to the fish signs warning people also to avoid foam. VBT will get four and will put them at the same locations as the PFAS signs.



Sumpter Township Public Notice



(Continued from page 23)



Great Lakes Water Authority Water Quality

RESULTS (BY TOWN) 01/01/2018 To 12/31/2018

<u>Date</u>	<u>Pt.</u>	<u>Br.</u>	<u>Sample #</u>	<u>T. Coliform</u>	<u>E. Coli</u>	<u>Cl2</u>	<u>Need Recheck</u>	<u>Recheck Date</u>
<u>Town Name: Sumpter Twp.</u>								
01/04/2018	1	-	27	-	-	0.74		
01/10/2018	4	-	44	-	-	0.59		
01/17/2018	1	-	54	-	-	0.59		
01/23/2018	4	-	27	-	-	0.55		
02/05/2018	1	-	68	-	-	0.66		
02/07/2018	4	-	70	-	-	0.60		
02/14/2018	1	-	20	-	-	0.64		
02/22/2018	4	-	8	-	-	0.56		
03/01/2018	1	-	10	-	-	0.51		
03/12/2018	4	-	57	-	-	0.56		
03/21/2018	1	-	32	-	-	0.66		
03/26/2018	4	-	10	-	-	0.53		
04/05/2018	1	-	32	-	-	0.54		
04/16/2018	1	-	42	-	-	0.65		
04/19/2018	1	-	21	-	-	0.57		
04/26/2018	4	-	40	-	-	0.67		
05/08/2018	1	-	44	-	-	0.46		
05/14/2018	4	-	58	-	-	0.60		
05/17/2018	1	-	66	-	-	0.62		
05/23/2018	4	-	13	-	-	0.48		
06/07/2018	1	-	32	-	-	0.51		
06/12/2018	4	-	21	-	-	0.41		
06/21/2018	1	-	8	-	-	0.56		
06/26/2018	4	-	36	-	-	0.50		
07/09/2018	1	-	53	-	-	0.59		
07/13/2018	4	-	31	-	-	0.51		
07/19/2018	1	-	43	-	-	0.55		
07/25/2018	1	-	12	-	-	0.47		
08/03/2018	1	-	28	-	-	0.37		
08/13/2018	4	-	45	-	-	0.44		
08/17/2018	1	-	25	-	-	0.37		
08/23/2018	4	-	21	-	-	0.21		
09/05/2018	1	-	29	-	-	0.37		

(Continued on page 25)

VBT audit discussion centers on retiree healthcare liabilities

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Plante Moran presented the 2018 annual audit of all governmental funds to the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees at its regular meeting June 18. The audit received the highest rating, an unmodified opinion, and was accepted by the board.

The audit showed about \$16 million in revenue in 2018, a \$95,000 increase from 2017. There was \$2.2 million in public safety revenue and \$2.6 million in revenue sharing, an increase in construction revenue and decrease in using landfill funds.

Expenditures were \$16.5 million, which is a \$2.5 million increase from 2017, with 57% spent for the public safety department. The fund balance was \$440,000 less than the previous year at \$7.5 million, \$4.7 million of that unassigned.

The township changed accounting practices as required by GASB No. 75, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other than Pensions." (OPEB)

Plante Moran reported that in 2016, the

pension was 68% funded; in 2017, 73% funded; and in 2018 it was 79% funded.

The OPEB (healthcare for retirees) was funded at 6% in 2016; 11% in 2017, and 13% in 2018.

"It's a big liability," said David Helisek of Plante Moran. He said at the close of the audit year on Dec. 31, 2017, the unfunded liability was \$20 million.

He said this is the difference between what's funded and what's ultimately owed.

"You're starting to put money aside," Helisek said. "That's a focus and should be a focus."

He said Plante Moran will be happy to assist the township in thinking through alternative ways to manage this liability.

In discussing the liabilities, Supervisor Kevin McNamara said a new state law requires 40% funding and, "We put \$1.5 million in a locked-down fund for this." He said there is \$12.5 million in a long-term debt fund that can be tapped.

"You need 40% or a corrective action plan," Supervisor McNamara said. "The state

accepted and considers us at 40%."

Trustee Reggie Miller said, "We were triggered, yes, we were. The healthcare funding went from 6% to 13%, but it's still under funded. We need goals to get this up."

She said VBT was on the list of those being triggered and VBT submitted a corrections plan and that satisfied it for today, but the plan was not specified for the future. "We need to fix it," she said.

"This is facing a lot of institutions and they are changing their giving of full healthcare," said Trustee Sherry Frazier.

"We have employees pay 10% of benefits, while state demands 20%. We don't want to have them pay 20% because we feel we have a great staff," Trustee Frazier said.

"Some of that is correct," said Clerk Leon Wright. "OPEB is what we would have to pay if everyone walked out the door tomorrow. We would owe \$20 million in health care." But, he pointed out, the township has a health care program that is saving it \$500,000 a year because of the plan versus what the township would get with 20%, which is \$394,000.

"I cannot understand to save my life why other townships and cities and schools don't do the same," Frazier said.

"It will be a main part of our budget talks," Supervisor McNamara said. "Right now we are actually in pretty good shape. I would not suggest 100%. It [the cost] varies yearly."

Helisek said VBT was triggered, but it said this is what we're doing and they got a waiver.

Helisek said it is not \$20 million due tomorrow, but an estimate in the future. He said up to 10 years ago, this liability wasn't included in the audit statement.

"The state did the right thing, knowing what happened to Detroit, with unfunded pensions and healthcare," said Clerk Wright. "We have \$360,000 in health care costs and as long as we can pay that, we're doing great." He said \$5 million has been put away to pay this.

He said the discussion gives a false sense that the sky is falling and it's not falling. The township pays the yearly cost and puts money aside.

Frazier said that there is \$19 million owed on the Visteon bonds and you never know how long the landfill will be there.

"Wayne had to cut police and cut health care," Frazier said. McLouth Steel, GM, Ford Motor Co. had to cut, as well. "I'd like to be more aggressive in putting money aside."

Miller asked how the township knows how much is owed, and Helisek said it's an actuarial determination.

Helisek said the township levies 6.6 mills in property tax and 5.7 of that is public safety. This year the township paid \$7.5 million for police and fire.

McNamara asked how much of a rainy day fund is recommended for townships.

"You're at 1 mill," Helisek said. "You're limited to taxes and state sales revenue. The township's ability to raise revenue is not as easy as a city, which can levy 18-20 mills," he said.

He said generally 15% fund balance is recommended, but townships have to be more careful. There were the downturns in 2007, 8, and 9, and the ability to recoup and gain revenue that was lost is limited. There's a lot of moving parts, he said.

McNamara said VBT has \$20 million, \$7.5 plus \$12 million -- "That's pretty good. We're pretty fluid," he said, noting that money can go where it's needed.

"We were triggered," Frazier said of the state requiring a corrective action for OPEB. "Trustee Miller said we were triggered. She showed me the letter."

McNamara said he got a letter that said quite the opposite.

"We weren't triggered," McNamara insisted.

"Yes, we were," Miller said.

Helisek stood quietly and made no comment.

"We were triggered, but let's talk about the good," Miller said. "We're doing good and that can change. We will have a discussion on this during budget time."

Clerk Wright pointed out the budget and audit was available to the public on the website. He said everyone should feel free to call the treasurer's office or the clerk's office with questions.

Sumpter Township Public Notice

(Continued from page 24)

Great Lakes Water Authority
Water Quality



RESULTS (BY TOWN) 01/01/2018 To 12/31/2018

Date	Pt.	Br.	Sample #	T. Coliform	E. Coli	CI2	Need Recheck	Recheck Date
Town Name: Sumpter Twp.								
09/11/2018	4	-	40	-	-	0.23		
09/20/2018	1	-	41	-	-	0.45		
09/26/2018	4	-	38	-	-	0.30		
10/03/2018	1	-	53	-	-	0.50		
10/10/2018	4	-	28	-	-	0.35		
10/17/2018	1	-	21	-	-	0.55		
10/25/2018	4	-	42	-	-	0.33		
11/01/2018	1	-	42	-	-	0.39		
11/14/2018	4	-	27	-	-	0.55		
11/16/2018	1	-	49	-	-	0.53		
11/29/2018	4	-	26	-	-	0.71		
12/04/2018	1	-	66	-	-	1.00		
12/06/2018	4	-	50	-	-	0.74		
12/07/2018	1	-	21	-	-	0.65		
12/14/2018	4	-	67	-	-	0.83		

Total No. of Samples Collected:

48

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 460 dispatch calls for service reported by Van Buren Township police for these past seven days, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, June 23:

0349 – larceny, Freedom Way
0406 – operating while intoxicated, W. I-94 / Belleville
0623 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Parkwood Dr.
1212 – animal complaint, Daniel Dr./Bradley Dr.
1218 – trespassing, E. Huron River Dr.
1246 – animal complaint, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1325 – suspicious person/vehicle, Elwell Rd. / W. Huron River Dr.
1341 – suspicious person/vehicle, Quirk Rd.
1418 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Huron River Dr.
1452 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ash Dr.
1720 – assist fire dept., Coolidge St.
1753 – animal complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1903 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd.
1917 – suspicious person/vehicle, Merle Ct.
2014 – disorderly, Edison Lk.
2101 – suspicious person/vehicle, Waters Edge Ln.

Monday, June 24:

0039 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty
0757 – animal complaint, Sumpter Rd.
0908 – private property/property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1210 – suspicious person/vehicle, Riggs Rd.
1318 – family trouble, Western St.
1415 – parking complaint, Jackson St./Jackson Ln.
1423 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1644 – fraud, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1730 – animal complaint, Tyler
1752 – domestic, Stonebridge Dr.
1814 – neighbor trouble, Westlake Cir.
1840 – suspicious person/vehicle, Bemis/Haggerty
1854 – private property impound, N. Purple Sage Ct. / Sage Cir.
1855 – noise complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1911 – traffic offense, Barnwell/Handover
1914 – traffic offense, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Haggerty Rd.

1930 – suspicious person/vehicle, Waters Edge Ln.
2001 – traffic offense, Hull Rd./Elwell Rd.
2048 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Hannan Rd.
2046 – suspicious person/vehicle, Waters Edge Ln.
2158 – noise complaint, Lighthouse Dr.
2311 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
2352 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ecorse Rd.
2356 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.

Tuesday, June 25:

0253 – operating while intoxicated, S. Ponderosa Trl.
0441 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.
0658 – larceny, Peninsular Dr.
0745 – assist other dept., Meadows Cir.
0752 – property damage accident, Rawsonville/S. Grove St.
0901 – assist other dept., Belmont Dr.
1115 – family trouble, Locust Dr.
1127 – private property/property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1231 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
1241 – neighbor trouble, Lighthouse Dr.
1801 – PPO violation, Haggerty Rd.
1849 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1905 – private property/property damage accident, S. Schooner Dr.
1915 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1916 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1916 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1916 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1916 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2155 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
2204 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
2250 – 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd.
2315 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Haggerty Rd.
2327 – harassment call, Parkwood Dr.
2335 – domestic, Kirkridge Park Dr.

Wednesday, June 26:

0047 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
0200 – parking complaint, Brookside Dr.
0209 – parking complaint, Brookside Dr.

0518 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0536 – family trouble, Mida Dr.
0626 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Haggerty Rd.
1040 – fraud, America
1217 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1341 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd.
1349 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd.
1436 – dumping complaint, Van Born Rd./Beck
1510 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / W. Huron River Dr.
1542 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
1631 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1654 – property damage accident, Denton Rd. / Michigan Ave.
1717 – assist other dept., Park Estates Dr.
1747 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1803 – traffic offense, McBride Ave./Haggerty Rd.
1920 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.
1922 – road hazard, S. I-94 Service Dr./Belleville
1943 – fight, Michigan Ave.
1955 – juvenile complaint, Vine St.
2015 – property damage accident, High St. / W. Huron River Dr.

2156 – property damage accident, Tyler/Haggerty
2236 – parking complaint, W. Archwood Dr.
2239 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Morton Taylor
2251 – juvenile complaint, Maple Dr.
Thursday, June 27:
0028 – property damage accident, Haggerty/S. I-94 Service Dr.
0738 – breaking & entering, Lighthouse Dr.
0811 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd.
0923 – animal complaint, E. Sadie Ln.
1032 – missing person, America
1205 – ordinance violation, Sumpter Rd.
1237 – personal injury accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Martz Rd.
1318 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1314 – suicidal person, Pebblebrook Dr.
1311 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Haggerty Rd.
1546 – parking complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1729 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1815 – missing person, America
1816 – personal injury accident, E. Huron River
1818 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1834 – threat, Pine Dr.
1858 – suicidal person, E. Sadie Ln.
1916 – fraud, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2208 – assist other dept., Wick Rd.
2213 – harassment call, Fret Rd.
2218 – family trouble, Parkwood Dr.
2301 – noise complaint, Lake Villa Dr.
2317 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave.

Friday, June 28:
0445 – domestic, Richard Run Dr.
0803 – animal complaint, Harmony Ln.
0822 – larceny from auto, S. Bellridge Dr.
0841 – larceny from auto, S. Bellridge Dr.
0945 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Lake Villa Dr.
1003 – abandoned auto, N. Woodbury Green
1302 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tim Hortons
1311 – suicidal person, E. Sadie Ln.
1351 – fraud, Van Born
1432 – threat, N. Woodbury Dr.
1501 – abandoned auto, Ecorse Rd./Sadie Ln.
1521 – follow up by officer, Haggerty/Tyler
1532 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd./Tyler Rd.
1533 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Michigan Ave.
1608 – found property/child, Tyler Rd.
1633 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Hannan Rd.
1714 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton/tracks
1747 – property damage accident, Belleville/Quirk
1758 – overdose, Belleville Rd.
1839 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Michigan Ave.
1908 – traffic offense, Jackson St.
1919 – operating while intoxicated, E. Huron River
2002 – larceny, Brandi Dr.
2023 – traffic offense, Jackson St.
2136 – harassment call, Fairbanks St.
2152 – assault & battery, Ash Dr.
2156 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.
2242 – domestic, Brookside Dr.
2243 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Belleville Rd.

2324 – suspicious person/vehicle, Kirkridge Park
2331 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hardwood Dr.
2333 – noise complaint, Outer Dr./Old Michigan
2338 – family trouble, Aspen Ln.
Saturday, June 29:
0022 – noise complaint, Oak Ln.
0138 – suspicious person/vehicle, Beck/Tyler
0153 – suspicious person/vehicle, Tyler/Walden
0211 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. Bellridge Dr.
0231 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
0424 – traffic offense, Dover Ct.
0425 – parking complaint, Berkdale Dr.
0426 – overdose, Mida
0436 – parking complaint, Dover Ct.
0535 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0556 – mental subject, Lancaster Dr.
0701 – domestic, Oak Ln.
0857 – parking complaint, Bradley Dr.
0904 – parking complaint, Jeremy Rd.
1144 – parking complaint, S. Bellridge Dr.
1209 – threat, Western St.
1235 – holdup alarm, Belleville Rd.
1416 – personal injury accident, W. Huron River
1456 – family trouble, Clayton Rd.
1514 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1558 – property damage accident, Western St.
1740 – traffic offense, Laguna Dr./Nautica Dr.
1858 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr.
1900 – disorderly, Ayres Ave.
1919 – traffic offense, Ventura Dr./Laguna Dr.
1921 – disorderly, Quirk Rd.
2029 – mental subject, E. Huron River Dr.
2115 – private property/property damage accident, Fairfield Dr.

2206 – personal injury accident, Rawsonville Rd./W. Huron River Dr.
2339 – assault & battery, Oak Blvd.
Also on this week’s log are 126 traffic stops, 45 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, June 23:

0441 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
0931 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.

Monday, June 24:

1443 – intrusion alarm, Light Tower Ct.
1746 – assist fire dept., N. Edgemont Ave.
2043 – welfare check, N. Edgemont Ave.

Tuesday, June 25:

0128 – vehicle lockout, Main St.
0934 – animal complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1010 – welfare check, N. Edgemont Ave.
1058 – welfare check, N. Edgemont Ave.

1155 – malicious destruction of property, Menlo Park Dr.

1200 – found property/child, S. Industrial Park Dr.
1217 – operating while intoxicated, Sumpter Rd. / Industrial Park
1254 – property damage accident, Main St.
2024 – assist fire dept., E. Huron River Dr.
2057 – assist citizen, Main St.

Wednesday, June 26:

0209 – suspicious person/vehicle, Charles/Roys
0830 – suspicious person/vehicle, Astor Pl.
0938 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
0958 – court detail, 34th District Court
1419 – intrusion alarm, N. Liberty St.
2021 – property damage accident, High/Huron River
2234 – welfare check, Loza Ln.

Thursday, June 27:

0055 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
0740 – assist fire dept., Carmell
1021 – disorderly, South St.
1338 – property damage accident, Main/South
1420 – warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.
1539 – assist fire dept., Robbe St.
1701 – parking complaint, High/Church
1808 – found property/child, Main St.
1835 – suicidal person, Church St.
2204 – suspicious person/vehicle, High St.

Friday, June 28:

0144 – juvenile complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.
0619 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
0742 – larceny from auto, N. Liberty St.
0804 – larceny from auto, N. Liberty St.
0955 – civil matter, Church St.
1427 – traffic offense, Angola and Robbe
1451 – animal complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.

1610 – suspicious person/vehicle, Menlo Park Dr.
1628 – suspicious person/vehicle, Henry St.
1707 – property damage accident, Main/High
2154 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Main St.
2228 – operating while intoxicated, Sumpter/Main
2254 – intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.
2316 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
2358 – assault & battery, Main St.

Saturday, June 29:

0100 – assist citizen, Main St./High St.
0311 – suspicious person/vehicle, Henry St.
1332 – warrant arrest, West Boat Launch
2226 – property damage accident, Biggs/Greylock
2229 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. Edgemont

Also on this week’s log are 35 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, June 23:

0326 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Judd Rd.
0435 – suspicious incident, New Mexico
0619 – 911 hang up, 41000 bl. Harris Rd.
0730 – fire dept. assist, 51000 bl. Judd Rd.
1311 – citizen assist, 25000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1407 – warrant arrest pick up, 24000 bl. Sherwood
1539 – civil dispute, 45000 bl. Victoria Ave.
2139 – well-being check, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
2259 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Bemis / Sumpter

Monday, June 24:

0441 – suspicious incident, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
0908 – harassment complaint, 24000 bl. Sherwood
1039 – fire dept. assist, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1054 – threats complaint, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1338 – suspicious person, 40000 bl. Willow Rd.
1538 – fraud complaint, 19000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1617 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1656 – threats complaint, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.
1833 – threats complaint, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.

Tuesday, June 25:

0251 – mental health commitment, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0556 – alarm, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
0813 – traffic hazard, 41000 bl. Willow Rd.
0829 – citizen assist, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0907 – animal complaint, 22000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1349 – reckless driver, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
1547 – alarm, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
1924 – juvenile complaint, 24000 bl. Sherwood
2128 – suspicious incident, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
2137 – family trouble, 8200 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
2237 – civil dispute, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
2301 – property damage accident, Fenster/Traskos

Wednesday, June 26:

0010 – reckless driver, 8200 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd
0049 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.
0217 – breaking & entering, Rustic Ln.
0650 – family trouble, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.
0716 – citizen assist, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0933 – parking complaint, Rustic Ln.
1358 – warrant arrest pick up, out of township
1457 – assist other agency, 13000 bl. Rawsonville
1516 – citizen assist, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
2018 – fire dept. assist, 51000 bl. Willow Rd.
2025 – odor complaint, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
2120 – parking complaint, Sherwood/Wear
2152 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2202 – civil dispute, Edgewood Dr.
2218 – suspicious person, Creekside Dr.
2309 – fire dept. assist, Mulberry
2326 – missing person, 45000 bl. Victoria Ave.

Thursday, June 27:

0822 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1051 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1134 – juvenile complaint, 45000 bl. Victoria Ave.
1332 – suspicious incident, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1442 – alarm, 17000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1624 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1846 – suspicious vehicle, 20000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1945 – well-being check, Delaware
2220 – reckless driver, Elwell/Willow
2320 – civil dispute, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2339 – fire dept. assist, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

Friday, June 28:

0246 – suspicious incident, 19000 bl. Martinsville
0803 – traffic hazard, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
0901 – fire dept. assist, 27000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1224 – abandoned vehicle, Karr/Arkona
(Continued on page 27)

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

July 2019 ♦ 10th, 17th, 24th
7 – 8:30 PM

◆◆ SENIOR ACTIVITY GARDEN ◆◆

(LOCATED DIRECTLY BEHIND VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP HALL)

Join us Wednesday nights in mid-July for
a FREE Summer Concert Series!

July 10th – The Dan Rafferty Band
July 17th – The Blue Water Kings Band
July 24th – Fifty Amp Fuse

Bring your lawn chairs and come out
and enjoy an evening of music and fun!



Call us for more information 734-699-8921. Concerts will be held in doors in case of inclement weather.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued on page 26)

1425 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
1545 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1638 – suspicious incident, 20000 bl. Sherwood
1940 – warrant arrest pick up, 25000 bl. Sumpter

Saturday, June 29:

0049 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.
0159 – disorderly person, 48000 bl. Judd Rd.
0337 – civil dispute, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
0936 – traffic hazard, Rawsonville/Willis
1229 – suspicious incident, 24000 bl. Martinsville
1317 – suspicious person, Judd/Clark
1344 – ORV complaint, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.
1359 – ORV complaint, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1504 – 911 hang up, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
1634 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1716 – warrant arrest pick up, out of township
1741 – fireworks complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1844 – warrant arrest pick up, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

2029 – leaving the scene of a property damage
accident, Harris/Savage

2253 – fireworks complaint, Willis/Sherwood

2357 – suspicious incident, 8900 bl. Rawsonville

Also on this week's log are nine follow-up
investigations, 27 miscellaneous details, 70 patrol
checks, and 42 traffic stops.

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Independent Website
is Online! Visit us @
bellevilleareaindependent.com**

Belleville High School Alumni Reunion set for Saturday, Sept. 21

The Belleville High School Alumni Reunion will be held Saturday, Sept. 21, in the BHS Commons, 501 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville.

The reunion is for all BHS classes and faculty and staff are welcome to attend.

A social gathering, school tour, and shopping in the school store will take place from 2:30 to 4:45 p.m. Dinner is from 5 to 8 p.m.

Cost is \$20 per person with RSVP and payment by Aug. 24. After that, cost will be \$30 per person.

Make all checks payable to BHS Alumni Reunion and include your name, BHS Class, name of spouse/guest, class seating preference, address, email, and phone number.

Mail to Mildred Baker, 139 Clarence St., Belleville, MI 48111. For more information, call her at (734) 699-5231.

Information is also available on Facebook at Belleville HS Reunion. Email is: bellevilleallclass@gmail.com.

Baker said they need a representative from each class and need more volunteers to serve on committees. Call her if you can help.

"I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize."

– Steven Wright

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, July 24, 2019, at 7:30 p.m.** in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County, Michigan to consider the following proposed amendments to the Charter Township of Van Buren's Zoning Ordinance:

1. Proposed amendment that would modify the requirements the Zoning Ordinance to expand where the Township allows Senior Housing to the C, C-1, C-2, MU, RM, and RMH zoning districts. The amendment will also include the addition of development standards for Senior Housing in Article 5.

Please address any written comments to the Van Buren Township Planning Commission at, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 or via e-mail at rakers@vanburen-mi.org. Written comments will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on the hearing date. All materials related to this request are available for public inspection at the Van Buren Township hall prior to the hearing.

Van Buren Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aides and services to individuals with disabilities who are planning to attend. Please contact Van Buren Township hall at 734-699-8913 at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting if you need assistance.

Published: July 4, 2019

Posted: June 27, 2019

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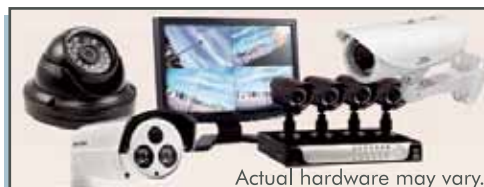
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47505 NORTH SHORE, VAN BUREN
LAKEFRONT BRICK RANCH Extra Wide Lake Views offering 2 Large Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Natural Fireplace, Seawall, Newer 70 foot x 10 foot Dock. 2 1/2 Car Garage. At a Most Prestigious North Shore Address. \$449,000

LAKE FRONT



40396 ALDEN, VAN BUREN
CUSTOM FULL BRICK LAKEFRONT HOME. 3 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, Updated Kitchen, Partial Basement, Large Brick Garage, Huge Deck on More than 1 Acre with Mature Trees & Much More. **CHECK THIS PRICE \$319,900**

5 ACRES - POLE BARN



43955 WILLOW, SUMPTER, TWP
CUSTOM HOME WITH HIGH END UPDATES. 3 Bedrooms, Huge Master with Luxury Master Bath, Heated Tile Floors, 2 1/2 Baths, Premium Kitchen, 5 Acres, Pole Barn, Like No Other Home. \$289,900

6 CAR GARAGE



14711 HAGGERTY, VAN BUREN
CUSTOM-BUILT EXECUTIVE HOME 3 Large Bedrooms, 3 Baths & 3 Half Baths. Master Suite on First Floor, Granite Kitchen, Full Finished basement with Full Bath. 3 Car Garage + Room for an RV on 1.44 Acres \$415,000

YES - ANN ARBOR



4401 PARK RD, ANN ARBOR
RARELY OFFERED SCIO TOWNSHIP Brick Farm House Featuring Four Bedrooms, Two Baths, Enclosed Front Porch, Living Room, Dining Room, Attached Garage, Huge Basement on Large 1.4 Acre Parcel Complete with Outbuildings and Large Barn. Just Minutes From Downtown Ann Arbor. \$319,900

5 BEDROOMS



21874 FENSTER, SUMPTER, TWP
WRAPPED IN ROOMINESS. 5 Bedrooms (5th is without a closet) 2 1/2 Bath Open Kitchen - Living Room, On Demand Generator System, 2 1/2 Car Oversize Garage with Workshop, City Water and Sewer. This Home has it All and is Alluring Affordable. Priced Right at \$185,000

2 POLE BARN



9277 RAWSONVILLE, SUMPTER TWP
ENJOY COUNTRY LIVING With 3 Bedrooms, First Floor Master with Master Bath, 2 1/2 Baths, Fireplace, Deck, 3 Acres, 2 1/2 Car attached Garage, Two Pole Barns - One is Complete with a Compressor and Hoist. This home was enjoyed by a car collector and set to work on cars or garden for your hobby. \$265,000

PRIME LOCATION



41405 TYLER, VAN BUREN
PRIME LOCATION. Opportunity Awaits this 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath Home. Large Lot with Larger 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage. This Property could be the key to a larger development parcel. Tenant Occupied - Do not disturb tenants without a confirmed appointment. Just Offered at \$135,000

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VACANT RAWSONVILLE 2.6 AC \$110,000
44235 WEAR - TWO 2.6 AC Each \$30,000
25817 SUMPTER 80X529 .97 AC \$20,000
SUMPTER EXETER TWP 8 ACRES \$65,000

VACANT SUMPTER & WILLIS COMM & RESIDENTIAL ZONING 25 ACR \$250,000
JUDD 10 ACRES SUMPTER TWP \$100,000
SAVAGE 1 ACRE SUMPTER TWP \$45,000
49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES \$180,000
SHERWOOD 37.55 AC BY WEAR \$145,000

WILLIS SUMPTER 1.14 ACRES \$60,000
28710 SUMPTER ROAD \$10,000
VACANT BALL ROMULUS .34 AC \$19,000
GRANT ROMULUS 1.8 ACRES LT IN \$72,000
HAGGERTY 1.5 AC VAN BUREN \$70,000
VACANT LOUISA "DREAM LOT" \$70,000

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